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COMFORT FOR SUFFERING — A Peruvian woman comforts her husband, ill with cholera, in a hospital in Lima, Peru. The cholera epidemic in Peru threatens to spread throughout

South America, but Southern Baptists are fighting it with a massive infusion of medicine. (BP PHOTO by Charles Ledford)



READY TO GO — Southern Baptist missionary Caroline Conerly, right, and Peruvian Baptist Jenny Fernandez prepare cholera medicine for a hospital in Lima, Peru. Southern Baptists' quick response to the cholera epidemic in Peru continues to provide medical assistance and spiritual ministry to the suffering. An additional shipment of 216 tons of intravenous medicine from Texas Baptists, the largest single response to the cholera crisis since its outbreak, was expected to dock in northern Peru April 28. (BP PHOTO by Charles Ledford)

Baptists continue fight against cholera in Peru

By Martha Skelton

LIMA, Peru (BP) — New cholera outbreaks in Peru — and a new estimate that at least three out of four Peruvians carry cholera bacteria — underscore the deepening crisis this Latin American country faces.

While cholera cases in urban and suburban hospitals had leveled off by mid-April, health officials expected new outbreaks in areas previously untouched and recurrences of the disease in already-infected areas.

Southern Baptists' quick response to the epidemic continues to provide medical assistance and spiritual ministry to the suffering.

A shipment of 216 tons of intravenous medicine, the largest single response to the cholera crisis since its outbreak, was expected to dock in northern Peru April 28. The shipment and an earlier airlift of 60 tons of medicine were sent by Texas Baptist Men in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Iquitos, the Peruvian city near the headwaters of the Amazon River, is in the beginning stage of a cholera outbreak, prompting reports the disease will soon course through the vast Amazon system.

Cholera also has spread to neighboring countries, raising fears of a continental epidemic for years to come.

Since its appearance in January, cholera reportedly has stricken 147,000 people, hospitalized 48,000 and killed 1,080 in Peru, a country of 22 million people. Those statistics include only certified hospitalizations and deaths. Many more people in rural areas have suffered and died of cholera unreported.

Texas Baptists' 60-ton shipment of intravenous solutions and kits for administering the medicine arrived April 6. In less than four hours workers hauled the medicine off the airplane and loaded it onto four trucks bound for the hardest-hit areas — Cajamarca, Trujillo, and Lima.

"It was a day of miracles," said Southern Baptist missionary Hayward Armstrong, administrator for the Peru Baptist Mission. Because of the cooperation of Peruvian officials, the missionaries and relief workers left the airport without signing a single piece of paper, he said.

Most volunteers unloading the medicines were members of Baptist churches in Lima, but government and health professionals also assisted. One doctor who helped later told Armstrong he went home that night, cried, and told his wife, "I don't understand why foreigners are willing to do so much for us."

Seventy-three Southern Baptist

missionaries work in Peru alongside 117 Baptist churches with 8,800 members.

Baptists distribute the medicines directly to hospitals and through clinics set up in churches to serve cholera victims. Missionary nurse Caroline Conerly has helped hospitals in the hardest-hit areas to coordinate delivery of medicine such as antibiotics and rehydration fluids.

Conerly contacted hospitals earlier this year while disbursing a general medicine shipment from MAP International through the Foreign Mission Board. When she got involved in the cholera shipments, hospital directors "already knew who Baptists were. The doors were open. It's incredible how the Lord works," she said.

Churches located near the designated hospitals have trained volunteers to distribute the medicine in a cooperative effort between the hospitals and the Baptist clinics. Volunteers also try to get patients' family names and addresses for follow-up counseling or church contact.

Peruvian Baptists want to focus on spiritual needs. Armstrong told of seeing a TV news report on a dying man brought into a hospital. The man's two sons had carried him for a long distance. He was pronounced dead in



FEAR — An anxious husband embraces his cholera-stricken wife at a Peruvian hospital. Since its appearance in January, cholera reportedly has stricken 147,000 people, hospitalized 48,000 and killed 1,080 in Peru. (BP PHOTO by Charles Ledford)

the background as the TV report continued. His sons' grief went unnoticed.

Even members of the medical community see the spiritual side of the tragedy. One hospital director, a non-Christian, asked missionary Beryl Boswell in Lima to bring Bibles and tracts to give to patients and their families facing this crisis. New Testaments are being distributed in another hospital in Lima with the permission of its director.

All the Baptist distribution plans have been implemented with the support of Peru's government ministry of health.

"In quantity and dollar value, evangelical sources have given more than the Peruvian government could generate," said Garcia, a former Baptist pastor and Peruvian Baptist leader. No government or private agency has given more.

Because of the continuing outbreaks, international assistance will be necessary for months to come, according to Garcia.

Martha Skelton, associate editor of The Commission magazine, and photographer Charles Ledford are in Peru covering response to the cholera epidemic.

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, SBC**

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson



The land which I give thee

Jerusalem has been called the world's largest open air museum. It is "deep and wide," and steeped in history. Thanks to the Department of Tourism and El Al Airline, 19 editors and writers were invited to see for themselves. The airline and government provided world class hospitality and the nine days became a blur of lectures, sight-seeing, travel, and interviews from Dan to Beersheba.

When the movie "The Ten Commandments" came out, some enterprising church placed on its signboard, "If you think the movie was good, wait 'til you read the Book." Seeing the Holy Land makes your Bible come alive. Between the airport and Jerusalem our guide indicated a village that at one time was called Emmaus. From there, it was the Jaffa Gate, David's Tower, the Wailing Wall, Garden of Gethsemane, and the Temple Area. We gazed upon the Dead Sea Scrolls and heard lectures of the political and religious climate of Israel, now and then.

It took the Romans over a year to scale Masada. We made it in 15 minutes by cable car, then found it difficult to sink in the Dead Sea, which is ten times saltier than the ocean. We studied Moab and Mount Nebo from Masada, gazed at Gad, and in air conditioned comfort were tempted to drive seven times around Jericho. We drove north, parallel to the Jordan River, and came to the Sea of Galilee.

Small wonder Jesus spent so much of his time here. It's beautiful. Tiberias provided a lovely hotel, then we sailed the Galilee to Capernaum, visited Dan, and saw the cold water rushing down from Mount Hermon. We read the Beatitudes on the traditional mountain where Christ preached the Sermon on the Mount.

Nazareth is home of a new Baptist church and the Paul D. Rowden Primary School with 760 students.

On to Mount Carmel where Elijah conquered the prophets of Baal, to Caesarea and the ancient ruins of the city. We walked the streets of Jappa

and looked upon the alleged home of Simon the Tanner. We made it back to El Al 747 and were in Jackson in less time than Simon Peter took to make it back to Jerusalem.

The idea was for the editors to see that it is safe for tourists to travel in the Promised Land. Also, you will enjoy the trip of a lifetime amidst history and the rugged beauty of the land. Remember to take your wallet. The "don't leave home without it" attitude is essential to survival. The temple tax is somewhat higher today, and hotel and food prices are on the New York-Paris level.

The land reminds you of an old pen pal — you've known him through writing for a lifetime, and suddenly you meet. The meeting is made more meaningful because of all the history you know. David said it well:

"I rejoice with those who said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord. Our feet are standing in the gates, O Jerusalem" (Psalm 122).

Prayers answered in Albania

By Dan Wooding

Can it be true? Albania has become friends with the Great Satan and the Great God at the same time? Surely, not? Yes, it is true. The United States has renewed diplomatic relations with Albania after a break of 52 years and has urged the last Communist state of Eastern Europe to move ahead with democratic reforms.

How the world has changed! Some five years ago, with the help of my British passport, I visited this mysterious land nestled between Italy, Yugoslavia, and Greece, that was attempting to extinguish the flame of Christianity by declaring that it does not exist. I was one of the first U.S.-based journalists to get into the country and I did so by going in as a tourist through London, England.

Our British group flew to Titograd in Yugoslavia, and then took a bus to a little border post between Yugoslavia and Albania. I remember noting a slogan posted up inside the building which quoted Enver Hoxha, the country's leader who had just died, as saying, "Even if we have to go without bread, we Albanians do not violate principles. We do not betray Marxist-Leninism." Hoxha must be turning in his grave with present developments in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

To punch home its views on religion, I was given the official holiday brochure explaining, "As Albania is officially an atheistic state, Bibles and any other religious literature, whether or not for personal use, are not allowed to be brought into the country."

It was an eerie feeling to be in a land where it was illegal to be a Christian or even own a car, though donkeys and bicycles were okay. Albania was a nation locked in a time warp. It was in 1967 that the country's

megalomaniac leader, Enver Hoxha, had decided that if God didn't exist, there was no point in having the country's, 2,169 churches, synagogues, and mosques open, so he closed them all and they were either destroyed or converted "to more useful purposes" such as bars, museums, gymnasiums, film halls, and palaces of culture.

While I was there, the once flourishing Christian church dating back to the time of Paul, was either dead or underground. No public religious services were allowed. Before the Communists seized power in 1944, Albania was 70 percent Muslim, 20 percent Albanian Orthodox, and 10 percent Roman Catholic, with just a handful of Protestants. At the crackdown in 1967, all religious leaders were either executed or put in prison for long periods.

At the time of my visit, there was life imprisonment sentence for any Albanian who dared to practice religion in public. In 1975, the state went even further; the authorities published an initial decree on first names, warning parents to stay away from religious names. According to a decree passed by the People's Assembly, the highest organ of state power, parents could no longer give Christian or Muslim names to their children. First names had to be "politically, ideologically and ethically sound." As with anything in Albania, severe penalties were imposed on violators.

Albania was not entirely without its god. Enver Hoxha, the "father of modern Albania" who ruled with an iron fist for more than 40 years, until his death on April 11, 1985, was still "worshipped." His photographs were on buildings and roadside hoardings, while bookshops and tourist hotels

were stocked high with his writings. Hoxha died at the age of 76, after ruling the country with an iron fist for 40 years. He was the longest-lasting-non-hereditary leader in the world, having been in power consistently since the country's liberation in November 1944. He had out-distanced Stalin, Mao, and even Tito.

But now, it all has changed in Albania as the people have spoken in large rallies in the street. These are the changes:

- * Earlier last year, Ramiz Alia, who succeeded Hoxha, began opening up the country to the outside world and introducing cautious human rights and economic reforms. In July, the government allowed 4,000 young Albanians to leave after they stormed foreign missions in an unprecedented show of discontent. People are still leaving on a daily basis, mainly by sea to Italy.

- * Religion is no longer outlawed and a few churches are already open again for worship.

- * Elections are coming up.
- * Albania has diplomatic relations with its greatest enemy, the United States.

Mother Theresa, Albania's most famous Christian, once said, "I pray for the Albanian people and the leadership of Albania every day; that they find God and also peace. I also pray for the underground church who are not afraid, and for all who suffer for their faith."

Dan Wooding is an award-winning British journalist now living in Southern California. He is also author of 23 books. He is a syndicated newspaper columnist, a commentator for the UPI Radio Network, and vice president of Promise Publishing in Orange, Calif.

Remains of ancient Israel

This ancient aqueduct originally ran south from the Mount Carmel area. It served the cities along the Mediterranean coastline, including Caesarea, the city near which this photo was taken. Though destroyed and rebuilt several times, with a few repairs the aqueduct could still be used today. (Photo by Guy Henderson)

Parents desensitized to harmful programming

By Chip Alford

NASHVILLE (BP) — As society's moral values continue to decay, an increasing number of parents are becoming "desensitized" to the harmful effects of certain movies and television programs on their children, a Nashville-based marriage and family therapist said.

"Parents need to evaluate not only what they are letting their children watch, but what they are watching themselves," Rebekah Land said in an April 10 conference titled, "Helping Parents Evaluate Television and Movies." The conference was part of the Advanced Training Preschool/Children's Workers Seminar VI held April 8-11 by the Discipleship Training Department at the Sunday School Board. The four-day seminar drew about 185 participants from throughout the nation.

It is not unusual for Christian parents to take their children along with them to R-rated movies and consider it "normal behavior," Land said. "They have been seduced (by the world)," she said. "They have become desensitized" to the immoral sexual behavior, violence, and other anti-Christian themes which occur in many movies and TV programs.

"Parents need to evaluate where they are and think about what they are passively agreeing to," she said. To help decide which programs their children should watch, Land suggested parents ask several questions, such as: "Who is the hero? Does the show present themes counter to Christian values? What kind of lifestyles are being portrayed? How is the fami-

ly portrayed?"

Parents should be concerned not only with the overt content of entertainment programming, Land said, but with "covert" messages from programs that can invade the subconscious minds of children.

"A common covert message in many movies and television programs is that happiness is whatever feels good," she explained. "That is so contrary to what we believe as Christians, but people are just accepting it."

Discussing the impact on children of violence in TV and movies, Land said parents should remember that children's fears can be exaggerated by what they see on screen.

"Small children can't differentiate between fantasy and reality," she explained. "And recent studies have shown that when people are in a state of arousal or excitement, such as during a scary movie, chemicals are released in their brains that lock those pictures in their minds."

Land encouraged parents to watch shows with their children and discuss any mature themes or anti-Christian values presented.

"We have too many families today that cannot put their feelings into words," she said. "As a result, families don't know how to communicate or solve problems, and that is very dangerous."

Land also suggested parents limit the amount of TV viewing by their children and provide alternative modes of entertainment such as reading, sports and family outings.

Alford writes for BSSB.

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Missionaries deliver food, clothing after earthquake

By Donald D. Martin

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries planned to deliver four truckloads of food and clothing to earthquake victims in the outlying areas of Puerto Limon, Costa Rica, April 26 if roads were cleared by then.

The earthquake — which killed 82 people, left hundreds injured and destroyed thousands of homes April 22 — registered 7.4 on the Richter scale. Missionaries in the Costa Rican capital, San Jose, said a smaller

earthquake hit April 24. They did not know of any additional damage or loss of life.

Missionary Frank Lay, coordinator of the relief work, plans to concentrate Southern Baptist efforts in Puerto Limon's isolated areas, which so far have been unreached by relief teams. The city is located on the Caribbean coast about 70 miles east of San Jose.

Puerto Limon has been without water and electricity since the quake hit. The mission relief team members,

consisting of Lay and three other missionaries, have secured supplies for about 300 families. They have spent about \$10,000 in mission funds and Southern Baptist world hunger and relief funds.

Lay, from Union, Miss., also hopes to distribute water purification tablets in the area, if Southern Baptists in the United States can secure and ship them.

Missionaries also have helped Baptist churches in Puerto Limon set up

distribution centers for relief supplies.

Southern Baptist disaster relief teams in the United States have contacted the Foreign Mission Board, saying they are standing ready to go to Costa Rica. However, the Costa Rican government has not extended the necessary invitations to the Baptist relief teams, said Trudy English, the board's associate director for mission work in the area.

Costa Rican government officials said they and the Red Cross are

"handling the situation" in San Jose and Puerto Limon. However, once current relief teams meet the immediate needs of food, clean water and temporary shelter, area residents will need assistance in rebuilding, English said.

"We can't use teams at this time, but in the future we'll probably need volunteer construction teams to repair and rebuild homes and churches," she said.

Martin writes for FMB.

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

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Medical volunteers bound for Kurd camps in Turkey

By Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP) — Four Texas Baptist physicians left the United States on April 25 bound for southeastern Turkey where they will offer medical treatment to Kurdish refugees fleeing Iraq.

The medical mission volunteers initially will provide health care for Kurds along Turkey's southeastern border, and they eventually hope to initiate community health programs among the Kurdish refugees in north-

ern Iraq when the situation there stabilizes.

The medical volunteers are Marietta Crowder Walker, internist and Texas Health Department regional supervisor and her husband, Kerfoot Walker, internist and health care services director for Tyler/Smith County, both of First Church, Tyler; Robert Mann, pediatrician and member of Fielder Road Church, Arlington; and Terry Elder, trauma physician and member of Second Church, Corpus Christi.

The Texas Baptist Men organization has secured two water purifiers — each worth \$10,000 — for use in field hospitals in Turkey.

The medical teams were scheduled to arrive in Istanbul, Turkey, on April 28.

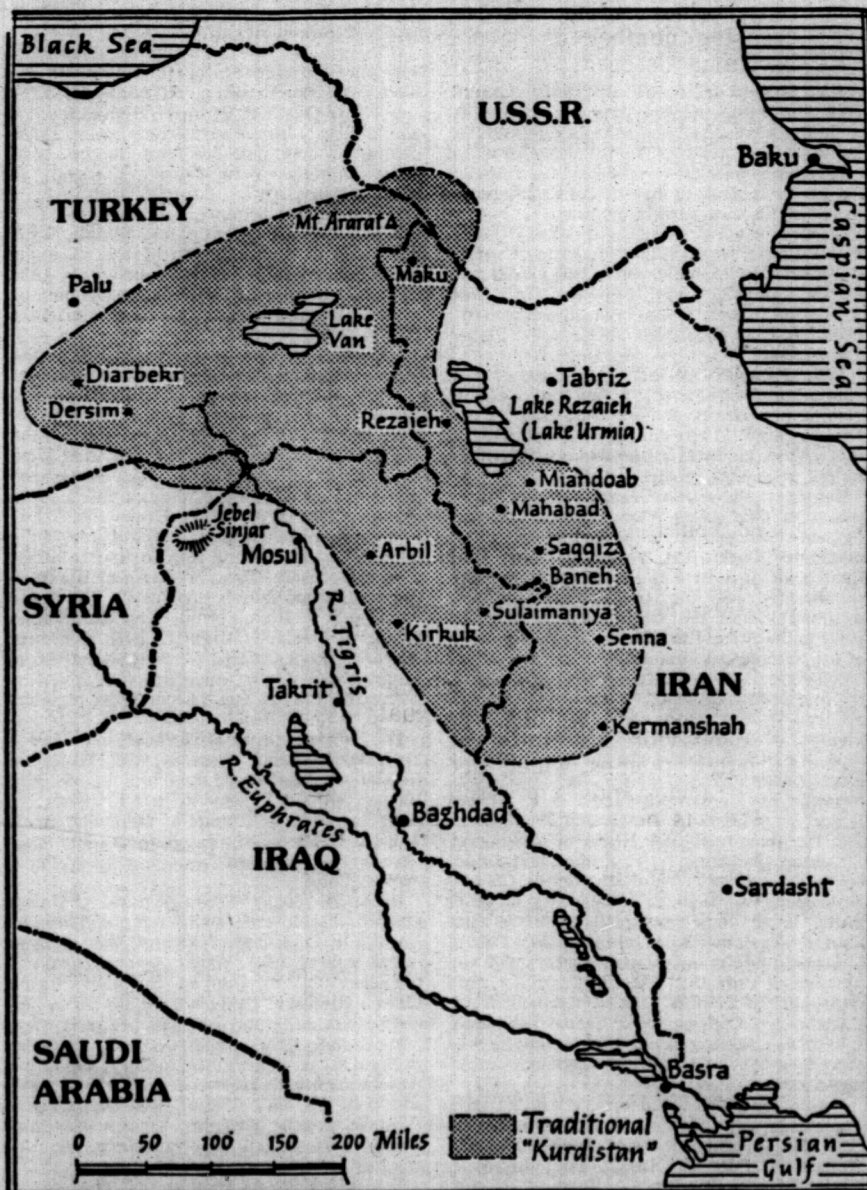
Twelve other volunteers tentatively are scheduled to leave the United States on April 30 as part of Southern Baptist disaster relief teams that will set up field kitchens among Kurds in western Iran.

Texas Baptist Men assembled the four portable field kitchens — each capable of serving up to 25,000 people two meals per day — and enlisted the

(See **KURDS** on page 4)

Volunteer health care teams needed to help Kurds

The Foreign Mission Board, SBC, NEEDS teams of nurses, physicians, physicians' assistants, and paramedics to go on a continuing basis, beginning May 9, for three to four weeks stints to Iran and/or Turkey to aid Kurdish refugees. For information on duties, housing, costs, etc., call Alvinia Michalec at the Foreign Mission Board, (804) 353-0151, ext. 575. Or call Ashley McCaleb at the state WMU Office (968-3800) for information she has received from Mrs. Michalec.



A SHADOW NATION — The shaded area of this map shows what once was Kurdistan, the nation of the Kurds. After World War I it was carved up between Iraq, Iran, Syria, Turkey and what later became the Soviet Union. Now the Kurds, who number at least 20 million, are the world's largest nationality without a nation. They also may be the largest single people group largely untouched by Christianity. (BP) MAP

Baptist Fellowship Convocation

May 9-11

Omni Coliseum, Atlanta, Ga.

Thursday

7:00 p.m. — Opening celebration and worship

Ray L. Spence Jr., pastor, Second Church, Richmond, Va., presiding.

Opening Address — Daniel Vestal, pastor, Dunwoody Church, Atlanta, Ga.

"What It Means to be Baptist: Freedom" — Nancy Tatom Ammerman, associate professor of the sociology of religion, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta.

"My Hopes for Our Future" — Ann Quattlebaum, member, First Church, Greenville, S.C.

Sermon: "A Matter of Perspective" — Ben Loring, pastor, First Church, Amarillo, Texas.

Business: Presentation of the proposed constitution and bylaws of The Baptist Fellowship.

Friday

8:45 a.m. Worship/business session

Herbert Reynolds, president, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, presiding.

"What It Means to be Baptist: Priesthood of the Believer" — R. Scott Walker, pastor, First Church, Charleston, SC.

Business: discussion and adoption of the constitution and bylaws; discussion of proposals for strategies for world missions.

"My Hopes for Our Future" — Jim Johnson, pastor, First Church, Sarasota, Fla.

Sermon: "Birthing New Life" — Lynda Weaver-Williams, clergy, member of Northminster Church, Richmond, Va.

2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Small Group Discussions

There will be some 80 small group discussions in five geographic locations around Atlanta on the MARTA rail line. All groups will discuss two topics: Strategies for Carrying Out the Greater Commission and Literature Options for Our Churches.

6 p.m. State Meetings

There will be 17 meetings of state and regional groups. Each group will select representatives to serve on the Coordinating Council. The nominations will be subject to ratification by the body.

Saturday

8:45 a.m. Worship/business session

Sarah Frances Anders, professor, Louisiana College, Pineville, La., presiding.

"What It Means to be Baptist: Servant Leadership" — Gary Parker, pastor, First Church, Jefferson City, Mo.

Business: Reports from discussion groups on missions and literature; discussion and adoption of financial plans; election of officers and members of the coordinating council; and discussion and adoption of the world mission proposal.

"My Hopes for Our Future" — Buckner Fanning, pastor, Trinity Church, San Antonio, Texas.

Sermon: "A Dream for Tomorrow" — Kenneth Chafin, pastor, Walnut Street Church, Louisville, Ky.

Committee still interviewing in BSSB presidential search

By Herb Hollinger

SHREVEPORT, La. (BP) — The 10-member presidential search committee for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board is conducting interviews but the chairman says a recommendation is "not impossible by the Atlanta SBC meeting but probably unlikely."

Wayne Dubose, search committee chairman and pastor of Summer Grove Baptist Church in Shreveport,

La., told Baptist Press the committee met two days this week and is periodically holding interviews in different locations. Dubose, however, declined to elaborate on how many were being interviewed or where, other than usually at airport locations easily accessible for the committee members, or how many recommendations had been received.

(See **SEARCH** on page 9)

PAC affirms merger

By Tom Strode

WASHINGTON (BP) — Members of the Public Affairs Committee, meeting possibly for the last time, endorsed their dissolution as a separate entity during their semi-annual meeting April 18 and 19 in Washington.

The PAC unanimously voted to affirm the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee's decision to merge the committee into the Christian Life Commission. In its resolution, the PAC also "strongly recommended" the Southern Baptist Convention approve the action at its annual meeting in June in Atlanta.

Sam Currin of Raleigh, N.C., told other committee members before the vote, while some had expressed reservations about the merger he believed they "should go out united."

The SBC Executive Committee voted at its meeting in February for the merger and for the transfer of the PAC's proposed budget of \$32,500 to the Christian Life Commission. In March, trustees of the CLC approved changes to the commission's charter clearing the way for the merger.

If approved at the 1991 SBC meeting, nine at-large PAC members would become trustees of the CLC. They would serve until their eligibility is ended, enabling those who qualify to complete a second four-year term.

CLC Executive Director Richard D. Land, a nonvoting member of the PAC, told the committee it was the consensus of the CLC's executive committee that the remaining PAC members who so desired would be among the 11 representatives to the BJC. He also said if the convention approves the merger this course would be recommended to the commission in September.

In other business, the PAC selected Tim and Beverly LaHaye as joint recipients of its 1991 Religious Liberty Award. Tim LaHaye, a well-known author, is president of Family Life Ministries and associate pastor of Montrose Church in Rockville, Md. Beverly LaHaye, also an author, is president of Concerned Women for America.

Sam Ericsson, executive director of the Christian Legal Society, said the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, the proposed remedy to the Employment Division v. Smith decision, is necessary because it will "roll back the law to where it was April 16, 1990." He said the legislation is in danger because "people are now trying to protect their respective agendas." Ericsson apparently was referring to groups with pro-life concerns who fear the bill might aid those who say abortion is a religious right.

In his speech Ericsson said he

believes the state of religious liberty in America was much better in 1990 than in 1980. He pointed to such factors as the growing Christian-school and home-school movements as well as the legality of equal access, which provides for student-initiated, student-led worship on college and high school campuses. The Equal Access Act, which Ericsson said was written "over pizza" at the CLS office, is succeeding.

According to USA Today, 7,000 of the country's 24,000 public high schools have Bible clubs or groups as a result of equal access, he said.

"I don't think the Lord wants a prayer amendment, because I don't think the Lord wants teacher-led devotional exercises . . . I believe, reading my Bible, that the only person who can lead in worship in a way that God honors the worship is somebody who is related to the Father . . ." Ericsson said.

"For us to go down the path of a prayer amendment is both unbiblical, and I think it's unwise constitutionally," he said.

Since 1964, a school prayer amendment has been introduced "for political reasons" every presidential election year with the exception of 1988, Ericsson said.

Strode is director, media and news information, Washington office, CLC.

Executive Committee, board nominees are recommended

NASHVILLE (BP) — Nominees to serve on the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and the four denominational boards — Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Sunday School Board, and the Annuity Board — have been selected by the 1991 Committee on Nominations. They will serve if elected by the messengers to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 4-6, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

Because the Baptist Convention of New England's churches reached the 20,000 membership level, three of the SBC boards — Foreign, Home, and Sunday School — each will receive an additional member from New England.

The Executive Committee will increase by one member with the addition of a member from the Hawaii Baptist Convention whose churches have reached the first level of 15,000 members.

Also, Georgia Baptist churches now have more than 1,250,000 members entitling that state to an additional member on the Foreign Mission Board, the Home Mission Board, and the Sunday School Board.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (78 members): 22 nominations considered; 14 new members; 8 renominations.

Nominees, with terms to expire in 1995, replacing members ineligible for re-election, include:

Rex M. Terry, an attorney and member of First Church, Fort Smith, Ark., replacing Frank Lady of Jonesboro; James Merritt Sr., pastor of First Church, Snellville, Ga., replacing William H. Ricketts of Athens; Jewel R. Pruitt, pastor of Immanuel Church, Glasgow, Ky., replacing James E. Jones of Campbellsville; E. Gibbie McMillan, pastor of Lanier Church, Baton Rouge, La., replacing Mrs. C. Bullard Jones of Baton Rouge.

Steven O. Walsh, pastor of East Valdese Church, Valdese, N.C., replacing Robert J. Goode of Greensboro; Claude Thomas, pastor of Council Road Church, Bethany, Okla., replacing Sam W. Pace of Rattan; Jack J. Rinks, pastor of Varennes Heights Church, Anderson, S.C., replacing Carl E. Compton of Myrtle Beach.

Hollie Miller, pastor of Sevier Heights Church, Knoxville, Tenn., replacing Charles W. Sullivan, Lenoir City; and Forrest Lowry, pastor of First Church, Spring, Texas, replacing Paul Pressler of Houston.

Three new members as the result of moves out-of-state include:

Mark Patton, pastor of Westridge Church, Topeka, Kan., replacing Harold L. Finch, term expiring in 1993; Blaine Snow Barber, pastor of Agape Church, Petoskey, Mich., replacing R. Kenney Spain whose term expires in 1992; Jim Wells, pastor of Oakwood Church, Kansas City, Mo., replacing Charles B. Murray whose term expires in 1993.

Russ Priddy Jr., pastor of Colonial Church, Baltimore, replacing Terry L. Davis of Ocean City, Md., who resigned a term expiring in 1992 for the Maryland-Delaware Baptist Convention.

Nominated from the Hawaii Baptist Convention for a term expiring in 1995 is Paul K. Kaneshiro, pastor of Pukalani Church on Maui.

Nominated to second terms are Fred H. Wolfe, Mobile, Ala.; Simon H.L. Tsoi, Phoenix, Ariz.; William K. Hall, San Clemente, Calif.; William R. Parker, Lake Mary, Fla.; Newton C. Brill, West Plains, Mo.; James T. Roach, Albuquerque, N.M.; Danny M. Crow, Pittsburgh; and Gwyna S. Parker, Taylor, Texas.

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD (91 members): 21 nominations considered; 9 new members including new representatives from Georgia and New England; 12 renominations. If approved by messengers, two local trustee terms which expire in 1991 will not be replaced.

The new member from Georgia is James Austin, pastor of Blackshear Place Church, Flowery Branch (term expiring in 1995). The committee nominated Carlos Paz, pastor of Island Pond Church, Hampstead, N.H. (term expiring in 1994), for the new New England trustee but he later declined to serve. That vacancy will be filled just prior to the Atlanta meeting by a subcommittee of the Nominating Committee.

Nominees, with terms to expire in 1995, replacing members ineligible for new terms, include: Carol D. Gilbreath, insurance agent and member of Highland Church, Florence, Ala., replacing Dick Thomassian of Huntsville; Wallace Edgar, pastor of Trinity Church, Texarkana, Ark., replacing Paul R. Sanders of Little Rock; William L. Bort Sr., pastor of Kendall Church, Temple Hills, Md., replacing Hubert G. Keefer of Washington.

Lawson Swearingen, insurance/investment counselor and member of Broadmoor Church, Shreveport, La., replacing Claude Kirkpatrick of Baton Rouge; Rick Scarbrough, pastor of First Church, Pearland, Texas, replacing Dale Cain of Lubbock; and Karen Dishman, pastor's wife and member of Carrollton Church, Carrollton, Va., replacing Nathaniel W. Kellum, Mechanicsburg.

Michael C. Catt, pastor of Sherwood Church, Albany, Ga., will replace Robert W. Claytor who moved out-of-state. Catt will serve a term expiring in 1995.

Nominated to additional terms are Rick Lance, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Rodney Gene Duncan, North Pole, Alaska; John Jackson, Anaheim, Calif.; William H. Pace Jr., Largo, Fla.; James T. Garland, Hazel, Ky.; Bruce A. Romoser, Ellicott, Md.; L. Daniel Watts Jr., Jackson, Miss.; James Michael Goodwin, Festus, Mo.; Horace W. Hall Sr., Wilmington, N.C.; Bruce Alan Russell Sr., Charleston, S.C.; David L. Stephens Jr., Powell, Tenn.; and B.G. Clements, Austin, Texas.

HOME MISSION BOARD (90 members): 24

nominations considered; 14 new members including a representative of New England and an additional one from Georgia; 9 renominations.

The subcommittee of the Committee on Nominations will nominate in Atlanta a person to fill a Virginia (1995) term of Earle W. Moore of Chase City. He would have been eligible for another term but declined to serve.

Nominated to serve as a new Georgia member, term expiring in 1992, is Stewart B. Simms Jr., pastor of Beech Haven Church, Athens. Nominated for the New England term, 1995, is Margery Curran, real estate agent and member of Heritage Church, Worcester, Mass.

Replacing S. Thomas Kyzer, Alabama representative who moved, will be Ann Cushing, homemaker and member of First Church, Montgomery.

Kenneth Cheek, pastor of Northridge Church, Northport, Ala., will replace Troy L. Morrison of Montgomery who resigned. David Stone, electronics technician and member of Emmanuel Church, Enid, Okla., will replace Sam Hammons of Oklahoma City who resigned.

Billy R. Bissell, pastor of Boston Avenue Church, Muskogee, Okla., will replace Mrs. Joe L. Ingram of Oklahoma City for a 1995 term. Mrs. Ingram declined to serve an additional term.

Nominees, with terms expiring in 1995, replacing members ineligible for re-election, include:

Dwight "Ike" Reighard, pastor of New Hope Church, Fayetteville, Ga., replacing Douglas M. Reddick of Valdosta; Rose A. Bear, member of First Southern Church, Terre Haute, Ind., replacing Robert Lee Latham of Indianapolis; N.N. Antonsen, pastor of Tyler Road Church, Wichita, Kan., replacing John Click of Wichita; Shirley Russell, pastor's wife and member of Columbia Heights Church, Columbia, La., replacing Austin B. Tucker of Shreveport.

Damon Patterson, pastor of Monroe Missionary Church, Monroe, Mich., replacing Ronald Dale Gross of Milford; Foyd Bennett, pastor of Reepsville Church, Vale, N.C., replacing Ann Frazier of Roanoke Rapids; John P. Avant Jr., pastor of Northrich Church, Richardson, Texas, replacing Gaylon B. Wiley of Angleton.

Nominated to additional terms are Olan K. Wills, Plant City, Fla.; Louie W. Odom, Brandon, Miss.; Robert F. Curtis, Fenton, Mo.; Marvin L. Capehart, Albuquerque, N.M.; James E. Ward, York, Penn.; Edward R. Futrell, Johnson City, Tenn.; Elton Ikels, Adkins, Texas; W. Ray Saratt, Atlanta; and Ronald B. Long, Lithonia, Ga.

Gary L. Southard, associate pastor, Rose Hill Church, Ashland, Ky., was nominated to replace Anthony B. Carson, Louisville, who was eligible but declined to serve again.

If messengers at Atlanta approve, three terms which expired in 1991 for local directors who were not eligible for re-election will not be filled.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD (93 members): 29 nominations considered; 17 new members, including an additional one from Georgia and a representative from New England; 12 renominations.

The additional nominee from Georgia will be Len B. Turner, pastor of Calvary Temple, Savannah, with a term expiring in 1992. The new representative from New England will be Lulinda Tucker, administrative assistant and member of First Church, Sudbury, Mass. That term will expire in 1995.

Nominees, with terms expiring in 1995, replacing members ineligible for re-election include:

Jerry Bowling, pastor of Hillside Church, Phoenix, Ariz., replacing Wayne L. North of Tucson; Jean R. Adams, entomologist and member of First Church, Hyattsville, Md., replacing Janice L. Williams of Washington; John E. Greever, pastor of Pleasant Heights Church, Indianapolis, replacing Donald M. Moore, Evansville, Ind.

Michelle Baker, homemaker and member of Midway Church, Wichita, Kan., replacing Mahlon C. Morley of Belle Plains; Michael Kent Workman, pastor of Second Church, Hopkinsville, Ky., replacing Don R. Mathis, Corbin; Kenneth Johnson, pastor of Oakland Woods Church, Clarkston, Mich., replacing Floyd E. Hughes of Grand Rapids; Ken Carter, minister of education at Alamo City Church, San Antonio, Texas, replacing James L. Holly, Beaumont.

Bob E. Fowler, pastor of Eastland Street Church, Fort Worth, Texas, replacing Bill Tisdale of Henderson; local board members include Scott Harner, pastor of Fellowship Church, Vienna, Ill., replacing Roland Maddox of Memphis, Tenn.; William L. Probasco, pastor of Meadow Brook Church, Gadsden, Ala., replacing J.B. Miller of Joelton, Tenn.

Nathaniel "Sonny" Simpson, pastor of Watson Chapel Church, Pine Bluff, Ark., will replace Donald R. Dunavant of Wynne, who resigned (term expires 1994). Walter Sparks, bank vice president and member of Magnolia Avenue Church, Riverside, Calif., will replace Nolan Kennedy of Seaside (1994) who also resigned.

Lynda Ruth Allen Barfield, teacher and member of Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, Miss., will replace Zach T. Hederman Jr., of Jackson (1993) who resigned. Phil Glisson, staff evangelist at Leawood Church, Memphis, Tenn., will replace William D. Henard III of Lawrenceburg (1992) who resigned.

Nominated to additional terms (1995) are Al Jackson, Auburn, Ala.; Gene R. Swinson, Augusta, Ga.; John W. Sager, Collinsville, Ill.; Wayne L. DuBose, Shreveport, La.; T.C. French Jr., Baton Rouge, La.; J. Barry Campbell, Reno, Nev.; J.D.

(See EXECUTIVE on page 10)

KURDS

From page 3

volunteers to teach Iraqi Kurds who have crossed the Iranian border how to operate them.

The Foreign Mission Board has agreed to allocate \$1.25 million from relief funds for the emergency food service program in Iran, \$25,000 for Kurds in Turkey and along the Turkey-Iraq border, and \$120,000 in hunger funds for food distribution within Iraq.

The volunteers will be the first Southern Baptist workers allowed in Iran since soon after Ayatollah Khomeini rose to power in 1979.

Korean Baptists also were slated to send a medical survey team into Iran on April 29 to review possible medical service by Korean volunteers working together with the food service volunteers. The survey team includes Kim Song Jin, medical director at the Wallace Memorial Baptist Hospital in Pusan, and Dan Jones, Southern Baptist physician, a Mississippian, missionary to Korea.

The 34,400 blankets purchased by Southern Baptists — 14,400 secured by Texas Baptist Men and 20,000 by the Foreign Mission Board — are being airlifted to Kurdish refugee camps as part of the U.S. Defense Department's "Operation Provide Comfort."

Also, the Foreign Mission Board has allocated \$92,500 for the distribution of 14,000 Arabic Bibles and study aids in the Middle East.

Persons wishing to contribute financially to the relief effort should mail checks designated "Kurd Refugees" to the Treasurer's Office, Baptist General Convention of Texas, 333 N. Washington, Dallas, Texas 75246-1798, to "Persian Gulf Response," Foreign Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230 or to "Kurdish Refugee Disaster Relief," Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104.

Camp is PR director, Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Alexander asks for nominations to MBC boards

Gayle Alexander, chairman, Committee on Nominations, requests that nominations of qualified Baptists for various boards and commissions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention be mailed to him at First Church, Church and Jefferson Streets, Tupelo, MS 38801, or to the Office of the Executive Director, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Forms for nominations may be secured by contacting the executive director's office. Boards and commissions of the Convention are Board of Ministerial Education, Christian Action Commission, Education Commission, Historical Commission, Baptist Children's Village, Baptist Foundation, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Blue Mountain College, Mississippi College, William Carey College, and Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Independent fundamentalists protest fellowship name

By Herb Hollinger

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (BP) — The editor of the Baptist Bible Tribune, representing independent, fundamentalist Baptist groups, has called upon the Southern Baptist moderate group, The Baptist Fellowship, to change its name.

Editor James O. Combs of the Springfield, Mo., paper of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, in a March 12 letter, asked Dan Vestal, chairman of the steering committee of the new Southern Baptist group, to consider changing its name. Vestal is pastor of Dunwoody Church in Dunwoody, Ga.

The Baptist Fellowship is a coalition of moderate Southern Baptists who have said they have felt displaced in the Southern Baptist Convention. The group plans its second convocation in Atlanta May 9-11.

Vestal told Baptist Press he would present Combs' request to the steering committee.

"I appreciated his (Combs) spirit and cordiality," said Vestal. "It is not our intent to hinder or hurt other Bap-

tist groups." He declined to elaborate further.

Combs said he was amazed a "moderate-liberal" group within the Southern Baptist Convention, a group which decries and derides the term "fundamentalist" would adopt the name which "has characterized fundamental Baptists for 60 years."

"Much of the public might confuse them with a staunch fundamentalist and separatist movement," Combs said.

Steps to reserve the name "Baptist Fellowship" have been taken with the Georgia secretary of state by independent fundamental Baptists, Combs said.

In an April 10 editorial, Combs said since 1931 the growing independent, fundamental Baptist movement in America has popularized the term "Baptist Fellowship," often in contrast to terms like "convention" or even "association."

Hollinger is director of Baptist Press.



Senior Adult Day May 5

SHREVEPORT, LA — Gerald Cotton, left, and James Formas, right, visit fellow church member Henry Carter in a local Shreveport nursing home. The members of New Elizabeth Church are demonstrating the 1991 Senior Adult Day theme, "Seniors Reaching Seniors." Senior Adult Day, suggested for observance May 5 on the Southern Baptist Convention calendar, is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department. (Photo by Jim Veneman)

MBIB presents awards to local churches

A number of Mississippi churches and Local ACTS Boards were honored with awards during the Fifth Annual Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting held at Calvary Church, Jackson.

Awards for video:

Best Program — Mission/Evangelism

OUTREACH — First Church, Gulfport

Best Program — Church Musical

The 1990 SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE — Morrison Heights Church, Clinton

Best Program — Human Interest
CHRISTMAS PARADE 1990 — ACTS of Laurel, MS, Inc.

Best Program — Community Service/ Sports

FOOTBALL 1990 — ACTS of Laurel, MS, Inc.

Best Spot in Television

HEADLINES — First Church, Brandon

Creative Use of Television

OUTREACH — First Church, Gulfport

Award for radio:

Best Program — Radio — Missions/Evangelism

FIRST LOVE — First Church, Cleveland

The awards were presented to the churches and local ACTS boards at the banquet. One of the primary objectives of MBIB is recognition of outstanding work in radio and television by churches, association or local ACTS boards.

Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting is sponsored by the Broadcast Services Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Farrell Blankenship, director; Judy Hartman, secretary.

The MBIB Planning Committee was made up of Steve Guidry and Pam Mitchell, Jackson; Kurt Brautigam and Wayne Pierce, Hattiesburg; Jim Phillips, Greenwood; Gary Bagley, Meridian; Mike Myrick, Laurel; Blankenship; and Hartman.

Wade sons establish scholarship in memory of their parents

The four sons of John Allen Wade, Jr. and Rosa Wade have established an endowed scholarship at Mississippi College in honor of their parents.

To be known as the Rev. John Allen Wade Jr. and Rosa Sturdivant Wade Scholarship Fund, the endowment will provide scholarships to students in the field of New Testament studies at the college. Recipients will be selected from students who demonstrate a financial need and who maintain at least a "B" or higher grade point average.

Both Wades were born in Calhoun County, Miss., and are graduates of Delta High School. He was graduated from Mississippi College in 1937 and in November of that year the couple were married and embarked upon a productive ministry of more than half a century.

The Wades served churches in Montgomery, Calhoun, Attala, Webster, and Carroll counties in Mississippi, and did extensive home mission work in West Virginia. They provided leadership in church building program and community improvements. The John

A. Wade Community Park in Kosciusko is a product of their ideas and work.

Wade was the recipient in 1948 of the Pittsburg, Pa., Carnegie Hero Fund Commission's Silver Medal for Heroism when, at great peril to himself, he rescued a man from the bottom of a collapsed abandoned well.

The Wades served Kilmichael Church; Bethany, Calhoun City; Second, Kosciusko; Vaiden Church; Southern Baptist Chapel, Philippi, W. Va.; and North Winona Church.

The four sons who established the scholarship are Ron, Bob, Larry, and John Philip Wade. Their endowment will serve as the principal source of income for the scholarship. The endowment may be increased, from time to time, by appropriate contributions from the founders or from others.

"This is an excellent way for these sons to honor their parents and at the same time make education possible for worthy students in New Testament studies," said Rory Lee, vice-president for institutional advancement, MC.

Morris Chapman appoints key committees for SBC

By Herb Hollinger

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (BP) — Appointments to two key committees to serve during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, June 4-6, have been announced by SBC President Morris Chapman.

Chapman, pastor of First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, announced the appointment of the Committee on Committees and the Committee on Resolutions April 19. The SBC bylaws require the president to announce the appointments "at least 45 days in advance of the meeting."

Chapman told Baptist Press he reached "deep into the heart of Southern Baptist life for these appointments."

"Many... have never (before) served on an SBC committee or board," said Chapman.

Chapman said out of the 78 appointments on the two committees, there are two directors of associational missions, a state convention business manager, 1 bivocational pastor and a state paper editor. One-third of the appointees are laypersons, he said.

From information provided to him, Chapman said the churches represented gave an average of 11.5 percent through the Cooperative Program during the 1989-90 year.

"I am deeply grateful for these people from churches that demonstrate loyalty to our beloved Southern Baptist Convention through their generous Cooperative Program gifts. My appointments were made with a prayer that they will be guided by God's Spirit in every decision," he said.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

The committee has 68 members, 2 from each of the 34 state or regional conventions qualified for representation on SBC entities.

SBC Bylaw 21 says the Committee on Committees "shall nominate all special committees authorized during the sessions of the convention not otherwise provided for." The usual responsibility of the committee is to nominate members of the Committee on Nominations, which, in turn, nominates trustees to serve on the 24 national entities of the SBC.

Chapman named Bob Sorrell, staff member, Bellevue Church, suburban Memphis, Tenn., as chairman.

The committee includes a clergy or denominationally-related person and a layperson from each convention. The occupations of the people listed are as given by Chapman.

ALABAMA — Calvin Kelly, minister, Valleydale Church, Birmingham; Milton L. Williamson, layperson, retired and member, First Church, North Mobile.

ALASKA — Jay George, minister, Sunset Hill Church, Anchorage; Denver Copeland, bivocational pastor, First Church, Fairbanks.

ARIZONA — John Heizerman, minister, North Tucson Church, Tucson; Vera Parr, realtor, member, Rincon Church, Tucson.

ARKANSAS — Ben Rowell, minister, First Church, Rogers; Wyndham Cook, engineer and member, Memorial Church, Magnolia.

CALIFORNIA — Walter A. Price, minister, First Southern, Beaumont; John J. Swartz, minister, Bethel Southern Church, Escondido.

COLORADO — Heather Burns, salesperson and member, Central Church, Aurora; David Miller, minister, Pine Drive Church, Parker.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Clara B. Moore, retired, layperson and member, Capitol Hill Metropolitan Church, McLean, Va.; Byron Ramsey, minister, Temple Hills Church, Temple Hills, Md.

FLORIDA — Bob Barnes, psychologist and member, Sheridan Hills Church, Cooper City; Jerry Garrard, minister, Celebration Church, Tallahassee.

GEORGIA — Wayne Robertson, minister, Morningside Church, Valdosta; Paul Gage, evangelist, business manager, member, Rehobeth Church, Tucker.

HAWAII — Sterling Kim, contractor and member, Pukalani Church, Pukalani (Maui); Ken Newman, minister, Hawaii Kai Church, Honolulu.

ILLINOIS — Pat Pajak, minister, Tabernacle Church, Decatur; Jay Adrian, minister, First Church, Fairfield.

INDIANA — Richard Boyd, minister, Ravinia Park Church, Richmond; William (Bill) Gibbs, minister, Sunnyside Church, Hobart.

KANSAS-NEBRASKA — Mahlon Morley, banker and member, First Church, Belle Plaine, Kan.; Craig Atherton, minister, Trinity Church, Wichita, Kan.

KENTUCKY — Jeanette Roberts, executive secretary and member, Lovelaceville Church, Paducah; Michael W. Hail, minister, New Bethel Church, Verona.

LOUISIANA — Vaughn Phelps, layperson and member, First Church, West Monroe; Joe Michael Senn, minister, Oakcrest Church, Baton Rouge.

MARYLAND-DELAWARE — David A. Depp, minister, Memorial Heights Church, Cumberland, Md.; Richard E. Reilly, minister, First Church, Cumberland, Md.

MICHIGAN — John O. Gilbert, minister, Ridgecrest Church, Rochester; Mary Wiggers, homemaker and member, Onaway Church, Onaway.

MISSISSIPPI — Cornell Daughtry, minister, First Church, Indianola; Frank Gunn, minister, First Church, Biloxi.

MISSOURI — Mike Green, minister, Calvary Church, Republic; Bob Collins, minister, Plaza Heights Church, Blue Springs.

NEVADA — Jerry Johnston, self employed and member, First Southern, Reno; Michael Rochelle, minister, West Oakley Church, Las Vegas.

NEW ENGLAND — Thomas S. Moncrief, minister, Rice Memorial Church, Northboro, Mass.; Richard Wright, minister, Faith Church, Warwick, R.I.

NEW MEXICO — Jim McClung, minister, Mesa View Church, Farmington; Jean Martin, insurance claims and member, First Church, Albuquerque.

NEW YORK — James Arrant, director of missions and member, Solid Rock Chapel, Scotia; Mike Chism, corporate executive and member, Owego Church, Owego.

NORTH CAROLINA — Max Pendleton, minister, Catawa Heights Church, Belmont; Raymond Johns, minister, Emmanuel Church, Durham.

NORTHWEST — Steve Langston, state convention business manager and member, First Church, Beaverton; Ron Bryant, attorney, Forest Avenue Church, Redmond.

OHIO — Mark Scroggins, minister, First Church, West Carrollton; Linville Howard, businessman and member, Urbancrest Church, Lebanon.

OKLAHOMA — Charley E. Westbrook, minister, Calvary Church, Tulsa; Patsy E. Peters, secretary and member, First Church of Stillwell, Park Hill. PENNSYLVANIA — Nancy Patrick, counselor and member, East Shore Church, Harrisburg; Mark Brookhart, minister, First Church, Wrightstown.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Robert E. Jackson, physician and member, Rock Hill Church, Spartanburg; R. Kevin Child, minister, Green Sea Church, Green Sea.

TENNESSEE — Sorrell; Ray Flora, corporate executive and member, Bartlett Baptist Church, Memphis. TEXAS — Lou Brooks, homemaker and member, First Church, Sherman; Gene Lindsey, minister, First Church, Wills Point.

UTAH-IDAHO — Brian Harrison, minister, Emmanuel Church, Blackfoot, Ida.; Jim Herod, minister, First Church, Brigham City, Ut.

VIRGINIA — James N. Birkitt Sr., minister, Del Ray Church, Ashland; Virginia S. Caffey, homemaker and member, First Church, Martinsville.

WEST VIRGINIA — Bernard Lee Toppings, minister, North Charleston Church, Charleston; Rebecca Lee Bates, legal secretary and member, Cumberland Heights Church, Bluefield.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Resolutions Committee is composed of 10 members, three of whom must be members of the SBC Executive Committee. The committee, according to Bylaw 21, has the "duty... to prepare and submit to the convention resolutions which the committee deems appropriate for adoption and to report on all matters submitted to it by the convention, with or without recommendation or amendments."

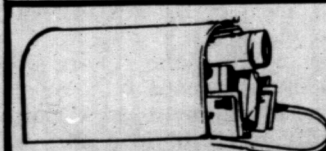
The bylaw also asks that proposed resolutions be sent to the committee 30 days before the annual meeting.

Chapman named David Hankins, Executive Committee member and pastor of Trinity Church, Lake Charles, La., as the committee chairman.

Executive Committee members are Hankins; Gayden Jones, homemaker and member, First Church, Baton Rouge, La.; and Simon Tsoi, pastor, First Chinese Church, Phoenix, Ariz.

Other members are Hal Lane, pastor, West Side Church, Greenwood, S.C.; Bill Merrell, director of missions and member, Country Estates Church in Midwest City, Lawton, Okla.; H. H. "Bud" Jones, insurance/claims and member, First Church, Woodway, in Waco, Texas; R. Albert Mohler, Jr., editor of the Georgia Baptist newspaper, The Christian Index, and member, Atkinson Road Church, Lawrenceville, Atlanta, Ga.; Mary M. Norman, school teacher and member, First Church, Post, Texas; Dean Register, pastor, First Church, Gulfport, Miss.; and Larry Thompson, pastor, First Church, Merritt Island, Fla.

Hollinger is director of Baptist Press.



Letters to the editor

Female seminary professors

Editor:

I was saddened to read the reluctance of some Southwestern Seminary trustees to consider adding women to their theology faculty.

While a student at Oklahoma Baptist University in the 1950s, I was blessed by the teaching of Rowena Strickland. She made the Old Testament come alive in both her lectures and her life.

Here at New Orleans Seminary I have heard countless testimonies concerning the contribution of Helen Falls, missions professor at New Orleans Seminary from 1945 to 1981.

We claim to be a biblical people. Have we overlooked Acts 18:26, which affirms the teaching ministry of Priscilla and Aquila to Apollos, as they "explained to him the way of God more accurately." Evidently one of the outstanding biblical preachers (and possibly the author of the book of Hebrews) did not mind sitting under a woman teacher.

Hopefully some day we will all grow beyond our biases and accept not only female seminary professors, but also those of different ethnic backgrounds.

Joe Trull
New Orleans

In appreciation

Editor:

Instead of giving you a scalping, I would like to express my appreciation to you for your work as editor thus far. I am sure that you have learned during the last decade that there are some among us that seem to be allergic to objectivity, honesty, and fairness.

There was one statement in the editorial for which you were taken apart with which I did not agree, but I would certainly not be so un-Christian as to give you a lashing for it. You could have been right. You might know about some people of whom I do not know.

I hope that you will keep up the good work with a policy of courage, honest-

ty, and fairness.

C. L. Boland
Retired pastor and teacher,
Pearl

Call the kettle black

Editor:

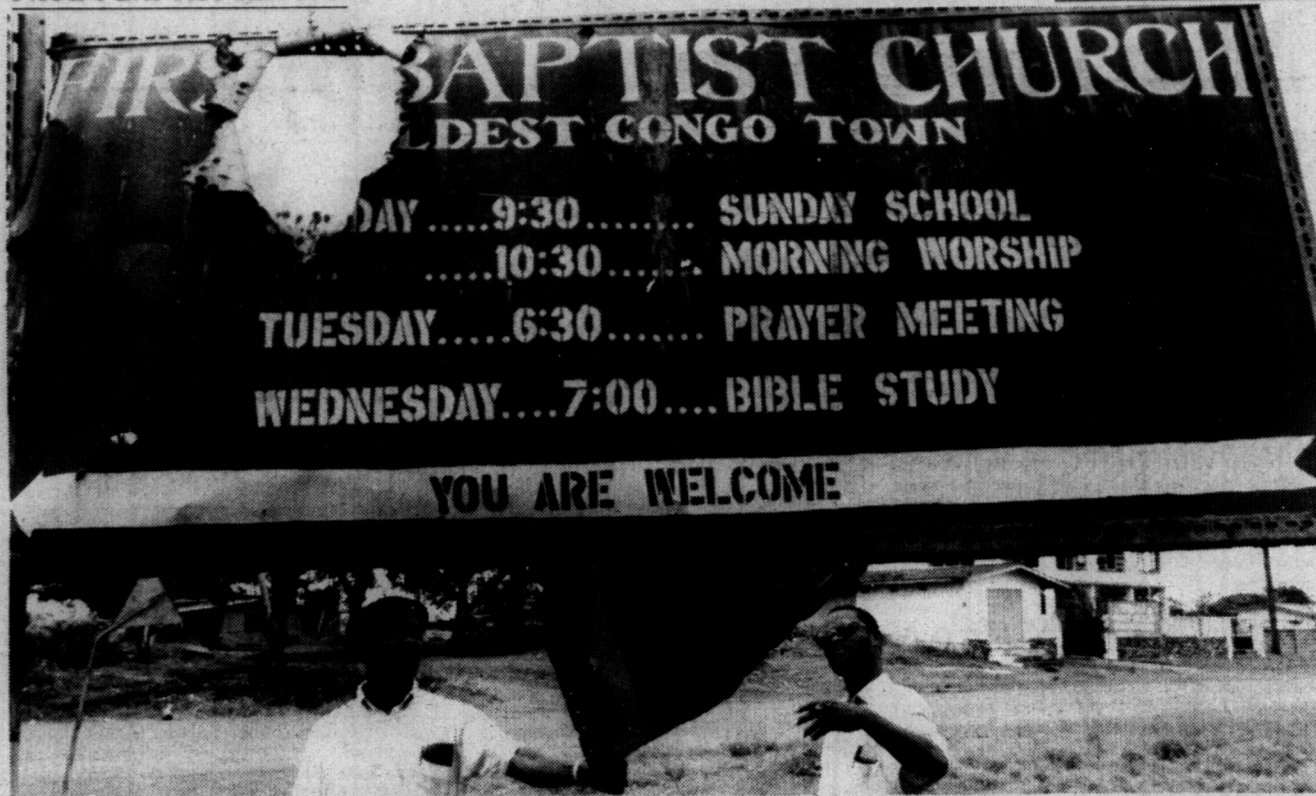
Your article "Grapes of wrath?" sounded very much like the old pot calling the kettle black!

Every comment you made concerning the SBC program and the Pastors' Conference program, could be said of the Baptist headquarters in Jackson and the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

My husband was called to preach and ordained in Jackson. He has been in the ministry 44 years, has pastored churches in Jackson, plus various other churches in the state of Mississippi, but has never once been asked to even offer prayer at any of the state meetings.

You talk about certain pastors being on all of the programs? Let's talk! Huh, fellows?

Name withheld by editor



SIGN OF THE TIMES — Church member William Early, left, and acting pastor John Cole of First Baptist Church of Oldest Congo Town, a suburb of Monrovia, Liberia, inspect their church sign. The sign, like their church, was damaged by shelling and gunfire during fighting between rebels with the Na-

tional Patriotic Front of Liberia and soldiers with the west African peacekeeping force. The fighting in the Monrovia area took place between July and November of last year. (BP Photo)

Missionaries find Monrovia's numb from killing, looting

By Donald D. Martin

MONROVIA, Liberia (BP) — In a suburban field of Monrovia, soldiers stacked 83 human skulls around a rectangular pile of bones.

Many of the dead were children, their bleached white skulls the size of small grapefruits.

Liberians living in the area said soldiers with the west African peacekeeping force now in the capital city used a bulldozer to bury the remains of hundreds of bodies found in the field. The troops left the neatly ordered pile as a stark memorial of the past chaos.

A skull atop a dirt mound and another on a stick mark other killing fields in the Monrovia area. Human skeletal remains — most the victims of unleashed tribal hatred — still lie scattered on roadsides and vacant lots. Certain areas of the city are now synonymous with death.

When Southern Baptist missionaries returned to Monrovia in late February, they found a city numb from killing and looting, slowly recovering from mass starvation caused by the civil war that has devastated the African nation. No one knows the exact death toll of the fighting, but conservative press reports estimate it has killed more than 20,000 people, mostly civilians.

"Most of the rebels who reached Monrovia were young men and boys from the rural areas who never had anything. I'm sure a lot of them had

never been to Monrovia," said missionary John Carpenter of Toccoa, Ga.

Local Baptists and the three missionary couples who returned to Monrovia to begin food and medical relief work agree a willingness to forgive is one of the country's greatest needs. "The desperate need for forgiveness is critical now — the basic need to accept and welcome those who were on the other side back into the fellowship," Carpenter said.

The returned missionaries are Carpenter and his wife, Betty, of Gainesville, Ga.; Bradley and Carolyn Brown, of Marietta and Atlanta, Ga., respectively; and Jim and Jane Park of Paducah, Ky.

Rebel leader Charles Taylor's NPFL sought to overthrow President Samuel Doe and his government, charging the government with corruption, nepotism, and human rights abuses. Doe was killed by a splinter rebel group last September.

For most Liberians, to talk about the killings is to talk about loved ones. Survivors recount whom they have lost, how they escaped death, and how they managed to find food, Mrs. Park said.

It is still too early to know how many Baptists and their churches survived the war. Before the war there were 248 churches and 58,300 members in the conventions to which

missionaries related. Some churches were hit harder than others.

In the downtown area, heavy fighting left most government buildings pockmarked with bullet holes. Most homes and buildings have been looted several times. Electrical and telephone lines are down throughout the city. Thick, black high-voltage lines draped across streets and pathways are so common pedestrians think nothing of pulling the once-lethal cables out of the way like overgrown vines.

Two of the main forces vying for power in Liberia are Charles Taylor and his NPFL, which controls most of the country; and Amos Sawyer, head of the current interim government, which controls the Monrovia area and is kept in power by the west African peacekeeping forces.

Most roads into Monrovia are still closed by Taylor's troops. If the rebels open the roads, many relief workers believe refugees will flood into the city.

The fragile peace in the 15-month civil war has most Monrovia's simply waiting to see what happens next. Although Taylor's group recently walked out of the peace talks, many Monrovia's are optimistic.

But when pressed why, many say they just cannot imagine the killing will start again.

Martin writes for FMB.

Lee Porter looks at re-election

By Herb Hollinger

NASHVILLE (BP) — Lee Porter has not ruled out the possibility of allowing his nomination in Atlanta for a 15th term as Southern Baptist Convention registration secretary.

Porter, in an interview with Baptist Press regarding the Atlanta registration process, was asked if he would allow his nomination in June.

"If I am still employed by the Sunday School Board, I will not allow my name to be presented to the convention for re-election. But, if the Lord should lead me to another position of

service and God reveals to me and the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention that the cause of Christ, denominational harmony, and confidence in the registration and balloting process could be extended with my serving as registration secretary, then I would allow my nomination," said Porter.

Following the convention in New Orleans last year, Porter was told by Sunday School Board officials it would be "unwise" for him to serve as

registration secretary again. Porter was said to have made disparaging remarks about Southern Baptist conservatives to a seminary class visiting the convention.

Asked if he were looking at other employment possibilities, Porter said "yes."

Porter indicated he would make a full statement in May about his future as a convention officer.

Hollinger is vice-president for Baptist Press.

Pearl River men give lots of help in Honduras

Carl Myers, Brotherhood's Area 9 associate for Volunteers in Missions, said that 42 participated in a mission trip to Honduras promoted by the Pearl River Brotherhood.

The team reports: "Our medical doctors saw 5,011 patients. The pharmacy dispensed 12,000 or more prescriptions. The optometrist saw 404 patients, and dispensed approximately 400 pairs of glasses. The dentists saw 359 patients and extracted 1,072 teeth.

"The last statistic we consider the most significant of all. There were 744

professions of faith, about 800 New Testaments were distributed, and Bible studies were started in Mazapa and Jilamo."

Five of the pastors on the construction team led in revival services in Santiago and Tela. Ten of the construction crew erected trusses and installed a roof of a new church building in Santiago. Six others formed and poured a concrete staircase to the second floor of the education building at Antioch Baptist Church in Tela, and constructed church pews for the Santiago church.

Chapman affirms changes

By Scott Collins and Matthew Brady

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Affirming his hope for peace in the strife-ridden denomination he leads, Southern Baptist Convention President Morris Chapman told students at Southwestern Seminary April 18 unity in the 15-million-member SBC must be "built around the Word of God."

In a broad-ranging dialogue with students at the largest of Southern Baptists' six seminaries, Chapman, pastor of First Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, said he has tried to lead the convention with "a gracious spirit but firm convictions" about the theological controversy which has dominated the Southern Baptist Convention for 13 years.

"While my desire is to enlarge the tent, and I believe, theologically that will include the vast numbers of Southern Baptists — maybe 90 to 95 percent — there are some who by their own confession would not fit under the tent," Chapman said.

"In my spirit, the nature and authority of God's Word has been my interest these years," he said. "Not the interpretation of scripture per se, not the interpretation of people's beliefs about ethical issues. The issue is the nature and authority of God's Word."

Chapman, who holds master's and doctor's degrees from Southwestern, is expected to be re-elected to a second term as Southern Baptist Convention president during the denomination's annual meeting June

4-6 in Atlanta.

Chapman used his visit to Southwestern to promote the Wednesday evening session of the Southern Baptist Convention, which he said will feature an "unprecedented call for spiritual awakening" among Southern Baptists and the United States.

He told the students a denomination in "a state of flux" such as the Southern Baptist Convention can expect some changes "even if they (the changes) were criteria for selection of a successor for someone who has retired."

Changes in denominational agency leadership the past year have nothing to do with his election as Southern Baptist Convention president, he said.

"It certainly is not my position, nor the position of Southern Baptist leadership as I know it, to target anyone and to plan for anyone to no longer be in a position of denominational leadership," Chapman said. "But that doesn't mean it won't happen. There are always varied circumstances which might bring it to pass which are beyond even the context of moderate/conservative considerations."

The SBC president said he believes, "the vast majority of churches will continue to give to the Cooperative Program, and some churches may increase their giving."

Both Collins and Brady write for Southwestern.

N. Mississippi crusade reports 270 professions of faith

By Anne W. McWilliams

A north Mississippi Jay Strack Crusade was held April 7-12 in Oxford, with Jay Strack preaching and his team member, Jack Price, leading the singing.

Don Stanfill, director of missions, Lafayette and Marshall associations, reports that there were 620 decisions, including 270 professions of faith, representing 64 churches in 17 denominations.

Attendance reached 22,000 in meetings which began nightly at 7:30 in the Tad Smith Coliseum on the Ole Miss campus.

During the week of preparation just before the crusade, Strack and a group of youth ministers spoke in 26 high schools, on dangers of drugs and alcohol and on other youth problems. They reached an estimated 10,000 students.

People from all across north Mississippi came.

Many churches, both black and white, have reported more decisions following the crusade. "Our lives have been changed, in a way we never thought possible," many have said.

In one church the Sunday night after the revival, the pastor didn't even get to preach his sermon, reported Stanfill, because many wanted to give testimonies of their decisions, and additional ones were coming to profess their faith in Christ.

One teenager who had made a profession of faith during the crusade got her dad, a non-churchgoer, to go with her to church the next Sunday morning. That night he returned and made public his own profession of faith.

A football player accepted Christ the week after the revival. In one church, two complete families came to church, and to the Lord.

An all-black church reported nine more professions of faith.

Thirty-seven organizations worked together in planning the crusade, the idea for which began with the local pastors' conference.

One pastor was so emotionally moved by the results of the crusade, Stanfill said, that he could not even speak. Tears running down his cheeks, he stopped and pointed upward.

HOUSE TOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

May 2, 1991

HOUSE TOPS is a supplement to the **Baptist Record** and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



Home Missionary in a Foreign Land

by Bettye Jones, Administrative Secretary, Church Music Dept., MBCB

Nothing can prepare you for life like children, nor can anything make you

more acutely aware of choices you must make or responsibilities you must assume. Help, Lord! I'm a home missionary in the foreign land of children!

My husband and I are responsible for providing food, clothing, and shelter. Good medical care and a quality education are a must. Proper toys, special joys, frogs and boys: the things I've learned to somehow appreciate. But even more important than providing a safe and loving environment where each child can discover himself is the responsibility for sharing a faith and witness of God's love.

Church was an important part of my early life. So it is with my boys. Their involvement in church activities since birth, combined with love and nourishment at home and the encouragement of Christian friends and leaders, led to salvation experiences for both. I'll always cherish the memory of the times Jeremy and Jonathan sat down with Danny and me and explained as best they could what it meant to accept Jesus as their personal Savior. The warm friendship and encouragement of our pastor added to these treasured moments in our family's spiritual album.

"I can't find one of my shoes," yells one of the boys. The shout quickly brings me back to the reality of a working mom. We quickly find the shoe, gather our belongings and head out the door. As we roll down the driveway, I am reminded of what a dear friend once said when our boys were contemplating their decision to make a public decision for Christ. "The salvation experience," he said, "will provide eternal life with Christ. Your boys will not be perfect. They'll still make mistakes, and they'll still be boys." How true that is. With the fights and squabbles, with the muddy shoes on the carpet, with the dirty clothes under the bed, they're definitely still boys. But they are growing into young men who know right from wrong, and who can share their faith in ways adults cannot.

My job as a home missionary in the foreign land of children will keep me occupied for many years to come. There's little advance training for the job. It's daily on-the-job-training. I'll occasionally fail, just as my children will, but together, with God's grace and help, we'll make it. I'm reminded in scripture of the precious heritage I've acquired. "Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him." Psalm 127:3. Thank you, God, for my mission field at home. **HT**

This series of articles deals with how to become a Christian or how to share your faith. Articles by others will follow in future issues of HouseTops.

CHURCH ANNUITY PLAN

Your Plan for Financial Security
by Frank G. Schwall, Jr.

ADVANTAGE 1: Family Protection Up to \$67,500 in special survivor benefits is provided if you die prior to retirement. Additionally, your entire retirement income account balance goes to your beneficiaries.

Up to \$300 per month is paid in special disability benefits if you become disabled prior to retirement.

Even if disabled, the Annuity Board will credit up to \$35 per month to your retirement income account during your disability and keep your survivor benefit in place.

This valuable family protection is provided by your state Baptist convention if you meet its eligibility requirements. It is funded by dollars from the Cooperative Program that match dollars contributed to your account by you and your church. This is significant up-front protection that leaves your dollars free to build your retirement security.

ADVANTAGE 2: Investment Opportunities The primary purpose of the Church Annuity Plan is adequate income when you retire, providing you freedom to serve the Lord in exciting new ways and financial security.

(continued on back of HouseTops)

Church Orchestra Festival Held at Morrison Heights



The above picture was taken during the Church Orchestra Festival which was held at Morrison Heights Baptist Church in Clinton. Doug Smith, professor of Instrumental Church Music at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., was guest clinician. Eight church orchestras were present, including: Morrison Heights Jr. High Orchestra, Alta Woods Baptist Church Orchestra, Temple Baptist Church Orchestra from Hattiesburg, FBC Orchestra from Pascagoula, FBC Orchestra from Cleveland and Celebration Orchestra from Morrison Heights Church.

SPECIAL MINISTRY RETREAT

FOR MENTALLY RETARDED

The Special Ministry Retreat is scheduled for May 17 and 18 at Camp Garaywa in Clinton.

THIS RETREAT IS FOR:

- Exceptional Persons (over 12 years of age)
 - Their Parents
 - Their Teachers
 - Their Pastors/Ministers
 - Their Friends

WHERE: Camp Garaywa, Clinton
WHEN: May 17-18, 1991
TIME: Registration begins at 4 p.m. on May 17
COST: \$20.00 per person

Retreat concludes at 1:00 p.m. on May 18.

The pre-registration fee is \$5.00. The balance is due on Friday at registration. Make checks payable to MBCB—no cash please!

One (1) adult counselor for every five (5) campers who attend. The theme for this year's retreat is GO AND TELL.

Don't forget, we must have your reservations by Tuesday, May 14. And you must have 1 adult for every 5 campers.

A THEOLOGY OF THE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Robert E. Wiley,
HMB

If associations aren't in the Bible, why do we have them?

While the word association is not in the Bible, many Scriptures lead one to conclude that some form of associating took place among New Testament churches. Further, Baptist associations have been careful throughout their history to establish theological reasons for their existence. Some biblical themes that are presented include the following.

The nature of the association originates in the nature of the church. The earliest association in London, England, records in 1644, *"Although the particular Congregations be distinct and several Bodies, every one a compact and knit Citie in it selfe; yet are they all to walk by one and the same Rule, and by all means convenient to have counsell and help one of another in all needful affaires of the Church, as members of one body in the common faith under Christ, their only head."*

The Philadelphia association was the first Baptist association organized in America (July 27, 1707). The annual minutes of the association began with the statement, *"To the churches we are related to in gospel order, we send our gospel salutation."*

W. W. Barnes, an outstanding Baptist historian, stated in 1934, *"The nature of general denominational organizations among Baptists is determined by the nature of a Baptist church."*

Russell Bennett, director of missions for the Long Run Baptist Association, Louisville, KY., offered a practical theology of the association. Several statements establish the continued belief currently held among Baptists that *"the association partakes of the nature of its constituents - the churches."*

The spirit of the association reflects the spirit of the church. Theologians use the word koinonia to describe the church's spirit. This is usually translated by fellowship, community, and partnership. While churches are not required to belong to, cooper-

ate with, or join an association, the desire to do so emerges from the expression of koinonia that permeates the Christian church. Fellowship is more than deepening personal relationships. It is the spirit of sharing as expressed in Christ's concern for others. The association is a community of trust likened to a family. Fellowship stirs the individual Christian to share the Father's gifts and graces with others.

Community speaks of the spirit of the churches in the association to watch over one another in brotherly love. The churches share a concern for one another because of what they are in Christ. He is the source of life, strength for the mission, and assurance of victory in faithful service. To neglect the community is to misunderstand the biblical charge that "just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you abound in this gracious work also." (2 Cor. 8:7, NASB).

The spirit of the association will be in the spirit of partnership as pertaining to the task of bringing the world to personal confession of Christ as Savior and Lord. The asso-

EMPHASIS WEEK MAY 20-26

Mississippi has 73 associations with 56 directors of missions. 29 associations share a director of missions. 13 directors of missions serve multiple associations.

Simpson County Baptist Association is one example of how an association ministers in the name of Jesus. Glen Schilling is director of missions. Here are some examples of their "churches on mission together."

- A county-wide crusade is planned for June 23-26, 1991.

- 14 churches will have a Stewardship Revival Sept. 28-29, 1991.

- A World Mission Conference will be conducted in 1992.

ciation shares in that witness. The churches of the association must not neglect the partnership in seeking to minister to the needs of the suffering people about them. The partnership of the gospel in Philippians 1:5 calls the association to confront the secular community and contend for the hungry, the homeless, the children of poverty, those who suffer from the anger of bigotry, the oppressed. Christ calls the association to be redemptive, through love and mercy, to serve others.

Simpson Baptist Association

Simpson Baptist Association was formed in 1853. There are 45 active churches within the association with a resident membership of 8347.

The association program

operates by the same principles as the local church. The department leaders are trained to assist the individual churches through an organized agenda and/or by request. The association program is also planned and promoted through numerous committees representing most of the churches within the association.

The association has 2 types of scheduled business meetings. (1) Annual Meeting, meeting 2 nights in 2 of the churches. (2) Quarterly Executive Committee meeting which is made up of the pastor and 1 lay person from each church.

The association is dependent upon the local churches for its financial income. Most of the churches give a percentage of their income. The amount of this percentage varies from less than 1 percent to 7 percent. The association budget is distributed among personnel salaries, property, utilities, insurance, pioneer mission causes, bold mission trips, religious education, promotion, office supplies, and ministry.

The association program consists of more than promotion. It is in business to be on mission for our Lord with churches.

What is the future for

Simpson Baptist Association? This all depends on our faith in God and dedication to His cause. Some projected ministries are: (1) Better trained people for the task before them. (2) Educate the people to the joy of missions - giving, being and doing. (3) Expand our present mission ministries. (4) Utilize our facilities to their greatest potential.

We've Been In This Together

For more than 200 years, Baptists have been on mission together.

Through associations, we have ministered, evangelized, started churches, helped other churches.

Strength comes from our sharing an enduring faith in God, a steadfast commitment to each other, a determined concern for our world.

We've been in this together. We'll stay in this together.

DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS REPORT Glen Schilling, Simpson Co. Baptist Association

Once a year I attempt to furnish a summary of the Director's work. I believe the dedicated people of Simpson Baptist Association deserve to know how most of my time is spent. This report will be for October 1, 1989 - September 18, 1990.

Following is a statistical report: 360 personal conferences; 92 visits related to church work; 87 church services attended without speaking; 130 times preaching and/or teaching; 8 funeral participations; 3 weddings performed; 72 association meetings attended; 25 state meetings attended; 21,000 miles traveled related to association work; 96 radio devotions recorded; 12 Herald news compiled. Served as volunteer chaplain in hospitals and nursing homes in Magee and Mendenhall, Mendenhall Police Department, and Mendenhall National Guard.

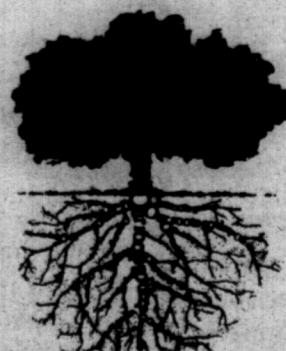
I attended the State Baptist Convention, the Southern Baptist Convention, and Home Mission Week at Ridgecrest.

Recipe for a Healthy, Happy Association

- 2 cups - love for God
- 1 cup - love for each other
- 1/2 cup - common theological understandings
- 1 1/2 cups - missions commitment
- 1 - well-seasoned director of missions
- 1 bunch - active, committed lay leaders
- variety of churches

Sift together the love for God and each other. Blend in the common theological understandings and missions commitment, stirring until well mixed. Add a variety of churches for spice. Pour in the director of missions and lay leaders alternately, mixing well after each addition. Mixture will appear lumpy.

Bake in a warm oven. Serve generously. To maintain flavor, periodically sprinkle with new churches.



State Youth Four Part Music Festival

Crossgates Baptist Church, Brandon, Mike Harland, Minister of Music, was host to the State Youth Four Part Music Festival on March 22, 1991. This Festival is sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, L. Graham Smith, Director. Twenty-seven keyboardists attended the keyboard part.

There were nine twelfth grade keyboard participants who were awarded college music scholarships to a Mississippi school. When a participant chooses to attend a Mississippi Baptist college, that college matches the scholarship award presented by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The 1991 recipients are Gina Gordon, Taylorsville; Tommy Creel, Carson; Robert Baldwin, Laurel; Mary Margaret Blackledge, Quitman; Christy Burns, Southaven; Meredith Futral, Ocean Springs; Tara Johnson, McNeill; Kim McWhite, McComb; Kristi Melton, Petal. Tommy Creel received the college music scholarship award in organ and piano. He was also presented the judges' award in organ. Gina Gordon received the judges' award in piano. Before Gina was a high school student, she was invited to attend the State Festival as a special guest and present a piano selection.

Each participant who received superior in all areas of adjudication was presented a partial scholarship to a Baptist Assembly, Gulfshore, Ridgecrest or Gorieta. In addition to those already mentioned, the following received this scholarship award: Elizabeth Webb, Amory; Allison Tays, Carthage; Teri Rainey, Petal; Shawn Bigham, Ecu; Winnie Ross, Meadville; Rebecca Measells, Morton; Jan Dykes, McComb; Kevin Williams, Columbus; Benjamin Poole, Pearl; Lori Little, Natchez; Michelle Pulliam, Columbus.

Dot Pray, Keyboard Contract Consultant for the Church Music Department, coordinated the keyboard part of the festival. **HT**

New Benefit Offered

A new benefit was added to the Church Comprehensive Medical Plan on Jan. 1, 1991. The Total Psychiatric Management (TPM) program enhances the plan's protection coverages.

TPM offers managed care for psychiatric and substance abuse treatment, and guarantees participants' prompt, appropriate care.

A special toll-free number, 1-800-334-6404, is answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week by clinical specialists who ensure confidentiality of your case.

The TPM specialists will also answer questions about the coverage for psychiatric and substance abuse treatment.

For more information about this benefit or other coverage through the Church and Seminarian Comprehensive Medical plans, call the Annuity Board's toll-free number, 1-800-262-0511. **HT**

BREAKTHROUGH

What's New in Youth Sunday School?

CURRICULUM IMPROVEMENTS:

- Stronger Emphasis on the Bible
- Added Evangelism and Application
- Greater Ease of Use
- Increased Attractiveness

PRODUCT IMPROVEMENTS

- **WORData!** Youth Bible Study and Evangelism System
A three-ring, annual notebook containing 184 pages of helps
- **Youth Sunday School Worker's Notebook: BREAKTHROUGH**

The Youth Sunday School Worker's Notebook: **BREAKTHROUGH** helps you to plan and conduct all areas of Youth Sunday School work more effectively. This 192 page three-ring notebook will have annual updates.

IMPROVED SUNDAY SCHOOL LITERATURE FOR CHILDREN

Because we care we listened and beginning with the October 1991 quarter, you'll get literature that meets your needs better than ever!

Here's a summary of improvements:

- **STRONGER EMPHASIS ON THE BIBLE**
Six-year curriculum plans provide a better balance of Bible content and reduce unnecessary repetition through the inclusion of additional Bible stories and Bible verses. There is a strong emphasis on use of the Bible, Scripture memory, and practical application of Bible teachings.
- **ADDED EVANGELISM AND APPLICATION**
The teacher's materials and parents' leaflets give easily-identified guidance that helps teachers share their faith and help a person become a Christian.
- **GREATER EASE OF USE**
Now you may choose from two easy-to-use teaching plans: Basic and Expanded. The basic plan, a step-by-step teaching plan required few, if any resources other than the Bible and curriculum materials. The expanded plan allows teachers to select from additional Bible study options which suggest a wider range of resources. Both plans offer teaching helps right where you need them.
- **INCREASED ATTRACTIVENESS**
You and the boys and girls will find more color, more pictures, and larger pages. **HT**



Area Keyboard Festivals

Gina Gordon of Hebron Baptist Church in Taylorsville and Tommy Creel of Prentiss Baptist Church in Carson earned the Judges' Award in Piano. Pictured below is the entire group of 1991 keyboard participants



There were 11 Area Keyboard Festivals held January 24, 25 and 26, 1991 with a total of 1100 participants. The participants were piano and organ students in grades one through twelve. There were 312 persons assisting at the festivals. Over 300 Baptist churches, large and small, were represented. Just under 200 participants from other denominations took part. Forty-two twelfth grade participants were eligible to attend the State Youth Four Part Music Festival March 2.

Church Annuity (cont. from p. 1)

The key to adequate income in retirement is building a sizeable account. Other than starting early and making adequate monthly contributions (at least 10 to 15 percent of cash pay and housing), compounding earnings from "plan funds" is a major factor.

The Annuity Board contracts about two dozen investment managers in the United States and around the world to manage the Church Annuity Plan portfolio. The performance of these managers is monitored carefully with the assistance of an outside investment consulting firm to assure that maximum earnings are credited to your account.

A choice of four plan funds is available to allow you to customize your earnings potential. Freedom and flexibility are available not only in your choice of funds but also in your ability to transfer money between funds.

ADVANTAGE 3: Tax Savings through Tax Avoidance
Now The Church Annuity Plan is governed by Section 403(b)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code. That means that you have the advantages of a Retirement Income Account. This allows contributions to be tax deferred to the time when the money is taken out. Contributions made by your church are not reported as income for tax purposes. You may use a salary reduction agreement to gain the same advantage. While there are limits as to how much money can be tax deferred, the rules are very generous.

The Annuity Board will assist you in determining how much money you can tax defer. This advantage includes tax free compounding of earnings. Additionally, if you are ordained when you retire, you can designate a housing allowance with the Annuity Board allowing up to 100 percent of your retirement benefit to be excluded from taxation to the extent it is used to provide housing.

ADVANTAGE 4: Stability, Security and Service
The Annuity Board will celebrate its 75th year of operation and ministry in 1992. Its long history is a noble record of providing retirement benefits often greater than called for in the original contracts.

The Annuity Board works within the framework of ever increasing government regulations and laws geared toward protecting your interests and account. The Church Annuity Plan is fully documented and designed to meet the requirements of the law.

Additionally, all contributions to the Church Annuity Plan are 100 percent vested from the day the money is credited to your account. This means that you have full rights to the benefits of the Plan. These benefits cannot be canceled or taken away by anyone.

The Annuity Board does not impose sales charges or pay commissions. Many mutual funds and insurance companies have sales charges of up to 8.5 percent. These institutions operate for profit, and the sales charges contribute to their profits and help pay sales commissions. The Annuity Board is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization established to serve Southern Baptist ministers and employees of Southern Baptist churches and organizations.

ADVANTAGE 5: Matching Contributions for Your Account The state Baptist convention provides

additional matching dollars to each eligible person's retirement account. The amount can be as much as \$210 per year. This may produce an additional benefit of over \$4,000 each year in retirement for a person starting at age 30.

The Church Annuity Plan offers you tremendous advantages leading to personal and family financial security.

To enroll, to upgrade contributions or to obtain additional information, contact your state annuity representative or the Member Services Division of the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Annuity Board's toll free number is 1-800-262-0511. **HT**



JULY 18-20

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Three exciting days!!!

•Committee Training; Basketball Coaches Clinic; Staff Conferences; Ideas Ideas, Ideas; Associational Youth Ministry How-To's

For information call Dr. Jerry Pounds at 1-504-282-4455

\$25.00 each (housing and meals not covered)

PRAYER REQUEST . . .

As part of the partnership between Illinois and Mississippi, 18 volunteers will be in, Illinois, May 15-19, to conduct an Evangelistic Witness Training Clinic. Be in prayer for these volunteers, their churches and staff.

Antioch Baptist Mission, Pontiac, IL
J. T. Haycraft, Pastor
J. C. Prather, Tupelo

Bushnell Baptist Mission, Bushnell, IL
Dan Yeager, Pastor
Jim Young, West Point

Dayton Avenue Baptist Church, Peoria, IL
Don Smith, Pastor
Jim Williams, Horn Lake
Pam Williams, Horn Lake

Liberty Baptist Church, Pekin, IL
Chester Vaughn, Jackson
Joanne Whitten, Jackson
Evelyn Vaughn, Jackson
Cindy Sansing, Brandon

Manito Baptist Mission, Manito, IL
R. L. Lockerby, Pastor
Maurice Flowers, Laurel

McArthur Drive Baptist Church, East Peoria, IL
Bobby Barnhill, Pastor
Curtis Guess, Union
Geneva Guess, Union

Rome Baptist Church, Rome, IL
Gregg Danaha, Pastor
David Millican, McComb

Woodland Baptist Church, Peoria, IL
James Donahue, Pastor
Glen Williams, McComb
Craig Richart, Okolona
Ella Williams, McComb
Fran Young, West Point

Harvard Hill Baptist Church, Washington, IL
Ed McAlister, Pastor
Gary Black, Corinth

JESUS IS LORD

The earliest creedal statement in the New Testament points out the importance of Christ's lordship to the first believers. But what meaning does the doctrine of lordship hold for Christians today?

The Doctrine of Lordship, the 1991 Baptist Doctrine Study, leads adults to discover the dynamic impact a commitment to Christ's lordship can have on Christian living. The book examines Baptist beliefs about the lordship of Christ, presenting the biblical basis for these beliefs. It also illuminates the relationship between the doctrine of lordship and our beliefs about salvation, spiritual gifts, stewardship, the church, worship, biblical interpretation, and the future.

Study the *Doctrine of Lordship* individually or in a group at church and reaffirm Christ's lordship in the world and in your own life. The *Doctrine of Lordship* (item 5420-91) is available from Baptist Book Stores and from the Customer Service Center; 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234; 1-800-458-BSSB.

MISSISSIPPI
DISCIPLESHIP
TRAINING

HOUSE OF

Making it right

By Gary L. Bagley

At the end of dinner each evening in his jungle hospital of Lambarene, Dr. Albert Schweitzer would fold his napkin, announce a hymn to be sung, walk over to an old upright piano, arrange the hymnal carefully on the music stand, study it for a moment, and then start to play.



Bagley

That dilapidated, aging instrument had surely seen its best days. The keyboard was badly stained, some of the ivory fastened by clumsy screws, and the sustaining pedal stuck. Many strings were missing and felt covering the hammers was worn thin, producing pinging effects.

Norman Cousins, editor of the *Saturday Review of Literature*, visiting Dr. Schweitzer, observed, "When I saw him sit down at that piano and prop up the hymn book, I winced. Here was one of history's greatest musicians with ability to fill any concert hall in the world. The best grand piano would be none too good for him, but there he was sitting before a near hopeless instrument."

Cousins further reflects, "The amazing thing was that the piano lost all impoverishment under the touch of his hands. Its capacity to yield music was fully realized, the tinniness of tone subdued by Schweitzer's skillful ability to avoid 'rebellious' keys while favoring cooperative ones. His being at the piano keyboard strangely seemed to make it right."

The Master's touch! It can make all the difference in the world. God can turn the humbleness of efforts into the most significant contributions in life.

Gary L. Bagley, is pastor of First Church in Meridian.

Middle East missionaries still face risk, terrorism

A number of missionaries assigned to Israel, Jordan, and other high-risk areas evacuated to the nearby island nation of Cyprus, to Egypt, to the United States — or to safer locations in-country — during the war. The Foreign Mission Board offers advice and counsel, even recommendations, but every missionary or family makes their own decision about whether to stay or leave a hot spot.

But even the evacuation point of Cyprus didn't escape the violence. A bomb exploded Feb. 2 across the street from an apartment building in Cyprus where several Southern Baptist workers were staying during their wartime evacuation. No one was hurt, but the powerful explosion blew out windows on the first two floors of the apartment building. A British bank building across the street was the apparent target. Authorities identified it as one of many attacks against American and British interests in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Whether they stayed or left danger zones, missionary families in the Middle East faced — and still face — a

greater risk of becoming targets of terrorism and the backlash of Muslim anger about the war. That goes for missionaries in Europe, Asia, and even Africa and Latin America, too.

Police in Bangladesh dispersed a Muslim mob bent on destroying a Baptist church Jan. 18 and later stationed five armed officers outside the home of missionaries David and Barbie Lindsey of Oklahoma City as a precaution. International schools where children of missionaries attend limited or changed class schedules. English-speaking churches suspended some services. The U.S. State Department issued a travel advisory warning all Americans abroad to "be aware of the threat of terrorist actions against U.S. citizens or property in other locations worldwide."

Still, "life must go on" was the attitude of most missionaries, as well as short-term volunteers headed overseas. And something else gives missionaries and volunteers peace: the knowledge that Southern Baptist families back home are praying for them.

— News Briefs, FMB, SBC

Lewis tells WMC leaders to rekindle the fire

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP) — If Southern Baptists are unable to "rekindle the fire" of a missions vision, then "our denomination is dead," Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis told state World Missions Conference leaders at their biennial meeting, April 18-19.

"God is waiting to do a mighty thing among Southern Baptists," Lewis said. "What's going to do it? Not another Peace Committee. We just need to get our mind, heart, and soul on reaching this nation and world for Jesus Christ and be one in this obsession: We are going to put missions in first place in all we seek to do. This will unify, excite, and ignite us."

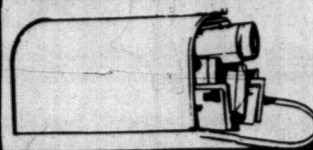
Lewis told the conferees, who administer WMCs in their state conventions, they would "do as much to

achieve that goal as anyone I know, anywhere."

He called their work to "proclaim the missions cause and kindle the fire of missions vision" in their states to be "the greatest work I know of in this earth."

WMCs are associational missions education events that bring Southern Baptist missionaries into Southern Baptist churches to raise awareness and understanding of missions. Every church hears two foreign missionaries, two home missionaries, and one state or associational missionary.

World Mission Conferences are directed by the Brotherhood Commission in cooperation with the Home Mission Board, the Foreign Mission Board, and Woman's Missionary Union.



Letters to the editor

Time for decision

Editor:

I write in polite disagreement with your April 11 editorial, "Time For Weeping." With all respect, the time for shedding tears over the destruction of the SBC has long past. Rather, the time for decision has come for individual churches and for the member in the pew.

The "political" fate of the SBC was sealed with Dan Vestal's defeat in New Orleans last June. Like it or not (and I don't), the SBC now is a thoroughly fundamentalist controlled denomination. Those with more moderate convictions or traditional leanings have, as your editorial points out, been excluded from most committees and other significant areas of convention life.

For the past 12 years, the vast majority of churches and church members have ignored (often deliberately) the "controversy" in our convention, hoping that it will play out or go away. Now that the fundamentalist political takeover is complete, due in large measure to such enormous apathy, these same churches and church members will decide whether and to what degree their stewardship dollars will support the new fundamentalist order.

Unlike the decisions of the last decade to ignore the swelling conflict, every church every year (at budget time) decides how to spend the Lord's money. Individual members make

such decisions even more frequently. Continued apathy or deliberate ignorance is an affirmative vote in favor of our new fundamentalist rulers; something they surely are counting on. "The Baptist Fellowship," which will meet in Atlanta May 9-11, has formulated a comprehensive cooperative giving program by which mainstream, traditional Baptist churches and individual members with integrity may continue their invaluable support of Southern Baptist missions and programs without betraying historically basic convictions. This does not necessarily involve starting a new denomination; rather, it does mean a realistic new approach to a (non-fundamentalist) old one.

No, the time for weeping is over. The time for decision is at hand, even for those who have put off deciding for so long.

Greg Snowden
Meridian

Personnel need in Hungary

Editor:

I am writing to inform your readers of an urgent personnel need in Hungary. We are requesting an Associate Missionary or couple with experience in offset printing to serve for four years in Hungary to set up

and operate an offset press and to train Hungarian Baptists how to use the press. The need is urgent because a new offset press provided by Southern Baptists will arrive any day. Among Hungarian Baptists there is presently no one trained to use this equipment. It would help if the person were also knowledgeable about desktop publishing and midi music publishing, but this is not a requirement.

There is a great need in Hungary for the publication of literature, periodicals, and music. Interested individuals should contact the personnel department of the Foreign Mission Board (804) 353-0151.

O. Errol Simmons
Field Coordinator for
Hungary, FMB, SBC

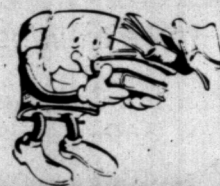
Pastors' termination

Editor:

I've noticed several articles recently in the *Baptist Record* about Ministers' Termination — one of them being about the book "Beyond Termination," by Myra Marshall.

I've just finished reading this book, and I highly recommend it to those who have experienced termination. It has been a tremendous help to me in learning to cope with this unfortunate situation.

Name withheld by editor



Book reviews

GENTLY LEAD, by Polly Berrien Berends (Harper Collins, 172 pp.; \$18.95, hardcover, 1991).

This book is written by the author of *Whole Child/Whole Parent*. She is a counsellor, and has written several children's books.

Though highly praised by other authors, the book lacked the "meat" I hoped for. The book's jacket calls it a "lively collection of poems, stories, anecdotes, and dialogues for parents, both in and out of organized religion..."

I found her stories and anecdotes refreshing, amusing, and often helpful. Her book emphasizes leading your children into their spiritual awakenings while finding out about God for yourself. In this regard, she is encouraging and honest about her own experiences.

Recommended for light, short readings, or for a daily encouragement. — STS

A CONCISE DICTIONARY OF CULTS AND RELIGIONS by William Watson (Moody Press, 299 pp., paper).

This book's unique feature is that it has three cross-referenced sections: the dictionary provides basic information on cults, religions, religious leaders, front groups, and publications; the bibliography gives the reader information about where to go for more help; and the last section lists counter-cult organizations that offers help on specific cults.

The author, Bill Watson, minister of education at First Baptist Church, Lufkin, Texas, grew up in Mississippi,

the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. G. Watson of Clinton. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary. Before Lufkin, Watson was minister of education at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, and Ridgecrest Church, Jackson. He and his wife, Kathy, have two daughters, Jennifer, 13, and Amy, 3.

Watson has earned Interfaith Witness Associate certification, in the areas of the occult and the New Age movement, from the Home Mission Board, SBC, and has taught several seminars on the cults.

Scores of cults are spreading across the country. Here's a guide to unraveling that tangle of cults and new religions.

This is an easy-to-read, well organized, comprehensive, thoroughly researched reference tool that would make a great addition to anyone's library. — AWM

TREVOR'S PLACE, The Story of the Boy Who Brings Hope by Frank and Janet Ferrell, with Edward Watkin; (Harper and Row, revised edition, paper, 159 pp. \$7.95.)

One night a little boy named Trevor heard on television about the homeless people who slept in the alleys of his city, Philadelphia. He wanted something done about that, and done that night. His parents drove him downtown and let him give his blanket to a man they saw lying beside a sewer grate. The man's smile stirred all of them so that they returned night after night to take blankets and coats to people they found living on the streets. This led to a change in the

family's lifestyle and to the opening of a home for the homeless. Trevor's compelling story has touched people across the nation. The reader of it cannot get around some questions: "Are there homeless in my city living like this? Can I do something for them? Will I?" An afterword has been added to this edition on "The Plight of the Homeless in America." — AWM

IN THE FULLNESS OF TIME, A HISTORIAN LOOKS AT CHRISTMAS, EASTER, AND THE EARLY CHURCH, by Paul L. Maier (Harper Collins, 320 pp.; \$16.95, hard, 1991).

This book is a combination of three earlier volumes by Maier: *First Christmas*, *First Easter*, and *First Christians*. In all three, and in the culmination, Maier uses history, archaeology, linguistics and literature, geography, politics and law, meteorology, economics, and other tools to "pry open the biblical past." His objective is to give more dimension and leverage to biblical accounts, and to illuminate the events which shaped the early church.

Maier chose Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost as the primary frames of study for the book for several reasons: they are the three greatest church festivals, they are the most crucial foundations of Christianity, and they are the celebrations "Christians claim... occurred on a divinely arranged schedule."

Full of photos, drawings, and illustrations, the book is interesting and enlightening! — a wonderful combination, especially for those who have never had the benefit of seminary. — STS

Committee nominates seminary trustees

NASHVILLE (BP) — Trustees to serve on the boards of the six Southern Baptist seminaries have been nominated by the 1991 Committee on Nominations.

Under convention bylaws, seminary trustees serve five-year terms and are eligible to serve two consecutive terms.

In order to serve, the trustees must be elected by messengers to the 1991 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 4-6, in Atlanta.

SOUTHERN SEMINARY (63 members): 15 nominations considered; 8 new trustees; 7 renominations.

Nominated to terms to expire in 1996, replacing trustees ineligible for re-election are:

William R. Hann, pastor, Mid-Cities Church, Westminster, Calif., replacing John J. Swartz, Escondido; Freddy L. "Buddy" Crowder, businessman and member, Roswell Street Church, Marietta, Ga., replacing S. Ernest Vandiver, Lavonia; J.D. Cutrer, retired businessman and member, First Church, Pascagoula, Miss., replacing Kent Wyatt, Cleveland; and Tim Piland, pastor, Nansemono River Church, Suffolk, Va., replacing William C. Carter, Richmond.

Michael A. Northcutt, pastor, Eastmont Church, Montgomery, Ala., will replace David Dykes, Gardendale who moved. Delton M. Beall, pastor, First Church, Forrest City, Ark., will replace Ron L. Herrod, Fort Smith who also moved.

Dennis Saller, dentist and member, First Church, Merritt Island, Fla., will replace James W. Ballard, Merritt Island who died. James Parrish, pastor, Lankford Memorial Church, Greensboro, N.C., will replace Sam H. McMahon, Charlotte who was eligible for re-election.

Nominated to second terms are Neal Gresham, Wing, Ala.; Larry L. Adams, Oklahoma City; Harry S. Dent, Columbia, S.C.; Dorothy Barker, Morton, Texas; local Louisville, Ky., trustees Ron Meredith and John L. Smith; and at-large trustee James M. Bullock, Clarksville, Ind.

SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY (38 members): 9 nominations considered; 4 new members; 5 renominations.

Lu Walker, community leader and member, First Church, Beaverton, Ore., will replace Jack Robertson (1993) of Pullman, Wash., who resigned. Danny Williams, pastor, North Metro Church, Thornton, Colo., will replace David Bruce (1993) of Denver who moved.

M. Lynn Cooper, bank president and member, First Church, Madisonville, Ky., replaces Lee P. Molloy III, Paducah, Ky., and William Cutrer, physician and member, Audelia Road Church, Dallas, replaces Kenneth E. Lilly (at-large trustee) of Fort Smith, Ark., in new five-year terms where incumbents were no longer eligible.

Nominated to second terms are C.A. Johnson, Jonesboro, Ark.; K.R. "Bud" Funk, Bloomfield, N.M.; John W. Patterson, Hampton, Va.; Everett W. Powell, Berkeley Springs, W.V.; and T. Bob Davis, Dallas.

NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY (38 members): 8 nominations considered; 1 new member; 7 renominations.

James K. Pierce, pastor, Porter Memorial Church, Lexington, Ky., replaces William C. Ray, Elizabethtown who finished his terms.

Nominated for second terms are Fred L. Herring, Easton, Md.; W. Keith Huffman, Ironton, Mo.; Ronald F. Norman, Tonawanda, N.Y.; James Stephen Sells, Morgantown, N.C.; J. Eddie Gandy, Huntington, W.Va.; William Vernon May Sr., Madison, Miss.; and Robert Everett Lee, Baton Rouge, La.

SOUTHEASTERN SEMINARY (30 members): 6 nominations considered; 3 new members; 3 renominations.

Nominated to terms ending in 1996, replacing members ineligible for re-election are:

Dwight L. Smith, pastor, West Ellsville Church, Ellsville, Miss., replacing Robert Earl Shirley of Tupelo; Hal Buckner Boone, retired minister and member, Sagemont Church, Houston, replacing James R. DeLoach, also of Houston; and Ned L. Mathews, pastor, Parkwood Church, Gastonia, N.C., replacing Billy H. Cline, Asheville.

Nominated for second terms are Roger William Ellsworth, Fairfield, Ill.; Kenneth L. Stevens, Novi, Mich.; and W. Dade Sherman Jr., Monroe, N.C.

MIDWESTERN SEMINARY (35 members): 8 nominations considered; 6 new members; 2 renominations.

Dennis Wood, pastor, First Southern Church, Tempe, Ariz., replaces (term ending in 1996) Si Davis of Tucson who declined to serve another term. Ronnie W. Rogers, pastor, Lakeside Church, Hot Springs, Ark., replaces Kerry G. Powell, McGeehee who resigned his term ending 1993.

Nominated to terms ending in 1996, replacing members ineligible for re-election are:

Donald J. Stuckey, school superintendent and member, Mt. Pleasant Church, Medora, Ill., replacing Jeanette Marie Harlow, Clarendon Hills; Anthony T. Mattia, pastor, Trinity Church, Wamego, Kan., replacing Doyle Smith, Great Bend; Roger S. Oldham, pastor, First Church, Martin, Tenn., replacing Joseph L. Johnson, Knoxville; and Kent Cochran, sales manager and member, First Church, Raytown, Mo., replacing Richard Adams of Festus as a local trustee.

Nominated to second terms are Jean Crady, Owensboro, Ky., and Lowell E. Socolofsky, Omaha, Neb., a local trustee.

GOLDEN GATE SEMINARY (37 members): 8 nominations considered; 4 new members; 4 renominations.

Nominated for terms ending in 1996, replacing members ineligible for re-election are James McCullen, pastor, First Church, Mountain View, Mo., replacing Gerald Ray Davidson, Arnold; and Roetta B. Hudson, bank vice president and member, First Church, Artesia, N.M., replacing Chester F. Stewart, Albuquerque.

At-large new trustees are Gene Dodson, pastor of North Hills Church, Vallejo, Calif., replacing Cynthia Woodall of Poway who declined to serve another term; and John Funk, business executive and member, Calvary Church, Westhills, Calif., replacing Joanne K. Hann of Orange who also declined to serve another term.

Nominated for second terms are Norman H. Taylor, Silver Spring, Md.; Dennis E. Zeidler, Floyds Knob, Ind.; Mrs. Robert C. Burch, Knoxville, Tenn.; and at-large trustee John D. Morgan, Houston.

Staff changes

Jericho Church, Baldwin, has called Neil Davis as pastor, effective March 24. A native of Baldwin, he is a graduate of the University of Mississippi, and attended Southern Seminary and the Birmingham Center of New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was East Pleasant Ridge Church, Baldwin.



Davis

Bill Ferrand, who has accepted the pastorate of Springdale Church, Attala County, began work there in mid-March. He is a graduate of Mobile College and New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife, Pam, and two children previously lived in Alabama, where he was pastor. He is a native of Florida.

Bayou View Church, Gulfport, has called Dale Nixon as minister of education and youth, effective March 1. A native of Orange Park, Fla., he received his education at Palm Beach Atlantic and Southern Seminary.

First Church, Lauderdale, has called Eddie Wells of Meridian as minister of music, effective April 14.

Lisia Pegues has been called to North Greenwood Church, Leflore Association, as minister of youth and education, effective April 1. A native of Tupelo, she is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary.

Chris Wheeler has been called to 19th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, as minister of youth, effective January 1. A native of Woodville, he received his education at William Carey College and is now a student at New Orleans Seminary.

Taylor Church in Lafayette County has added Amy Weatherly Harper to its staff as choir director and youth leader. She is a senior at the University of Mississippi majoring in music education. She previously was a member of First Church, Oxford, where she was choir director of the 5th-6th grade choir.

Corinth Church, Carthage, has called J. C. Howell of Walnut Grove, as minister of music, effective Feb. 24. A native of Hattiesburg, he is enrolled at East Central Community College.

Wildwood Church, Laurel, has called Hardy Denham of Hattiesburg, as interim pastor, effective April 28. He previously served as minister in residence at William Carey College.

Henry E. Hight has accepted the call as pastor of Bethany Church in Slate Springs, Calhoun County, and began his ministry there March 18. He moved to Bethany Church after almost 16 years as pastor of Beacon Street Church, Philadelphia. Hight is a graduate of King's College. He will continue the "Gospel in Magic" ministry which has enabled him to present the gospel in over 500 churches in seven states. He may be contacted at Route 3, Box 222-3A, Calhoun City, MS 38916 or call 637-2201.



Hight

New Zion Church, Crystal Springs, has called Doug Spires of Clinton as minister of music, effective March 10. A native of Baton Rouge, La., he is a music major at Mississippi College. His previous place of service was Castlewoods Church, Jackson. Leroy J. Brewer Jr. is pastor.

Nineteenth Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, has called Grady B. Parker as pastor, effective March 31. A native of Hattiesburg, he received his education at William Carey College. His previous place of service was West Columbia Church, West Columbia, S.C.

Floyd Paris is the new pastor of Yockanookany Church near Kosciusko. He is a graduate of Mid-America Seminary and also has a degree from Mid-South Bible College. He and his wife, Penne, and son, Philip, moved from a pastorate in his native Tennessee and began service at Yockanookany on Feb. 1.

Names in the news

"The Dissolution of the Monasteries and the Decline of the Sheriff," an article by Myron C. Noonkester, associate professor of history at William Carey College, has been accepted for publication by The Sixteenth Century Journal. The article discusses the unintended impact of religious policy on the fiscal condition of English government during the reign of Henry VIII.



The gospel ministry is a tradition in the McGuffee family. Harry S. McGuffee (foreground) pastor of Springhill Church, Troy, Ala., recently attended the Alabama Convention with two of his sons, Woodson McGuffee (left), pastor of Red Level Church, Red Level, Ala., and David McGuffee (right), pastor of Southside Church, Andalusia, Ala. These three preachers represent a combined 75 years in the gospel ministry. All are natives of McComb and former members of East McComb Church, in which Harry McGuffee was ordained into the ministry.



Earl Ezell, right, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board member from Washington Association, presents a \$1,500 check to Jack DeMoney, pastor of Gamari Road Church, Greenville. Roy D. Raddin, director of missions, Washington Association, is at left. This check was a grant to the church for building aid provided by the Pastoral and Church Building Aid Committee of the MBCB from funds received through the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering.

Craig Whitlock of Clinton, professor of physics and head of the Department of Physics at Mississippi College, was honored at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., April 18, with one of the university's top science awards.

Whitlock has been named recipient of the Guy and Rebecca Foreman Award for 1991 for excellence in undergraduate teaching of physics. He was presented the award during ceremonies at Vanderbilt and then conducted a seminar for the Department of Physics at the university relating how Mississippi College has developed an outstanding small college physics department.



Whitlock

Homecomings

Enon Church, Batesville: May 5; 10 a.m.; lunch will be served in fellowship hall at noon; singing, 1 p.m.; no night services; Jim Clutter, Coldwater, guest speaker; G. E. Jolley, pastor.

Airport Church, Grenada: May 5; 11 a.m.; dinner on grounds, 12:15 p.m.; singing, 1 p.m.; Loyd Thornton, Northside Church, Hattiesburg, guest speaker; Gloryland Quartet, guest singers; youth choir will also sing; Kerry Nelson, pastor.

Carmel Church, Monticello: May 5; Robert L. Dunn, pastor, Dublin Church, Prentiss, speaker; following noon meal in fellowship hall, the County Line Quartet of Ramah Church, Franklin County, will present music program; Johnny Sykes is pastor.

First Church, Orange Grove (Jackson County): May 5; speakers will be Howard Quinley and Bob Storie, former pastors; covered dish lunch served in fellowship hall following morning service; revival services will begin Monday at 7 p.m., Don Savell of New Pearl Valley Church, guest evangelist.

Enon Church, Jayess (Walthall): May 5; 10 a.m.; Bendon Ginn, pastor, Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, guest speaker; Enon Quartet, music; covered dish lunch; afternoon singing by New Point of View, McComb; offering for upkeep of cemetery. Kenneth Moore, pastor.

Calvary Church, Bogue Chitto (Lincoln): May 5; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; Joe Waggener, Mansfield, La., former pastor, guest speaker; dinner on grounds following morning service; 1:30 p.m. singing; no night services; Gospel Heirs, Harrisville, guest singers; morning offering for building fund; afternoon offering for cemetery upkeep; Emon White, pastor.

Union Church (Rankin) to celebrate 125th year

Union Church of Rankin County is celebrating its 125th anniversary, May 5. Services will begin at 10:45 a.m. Lunch will be served and there will be afternoon singing and fellowship. Pictures about some of the history of the church will be displayed. Vernell Daniels, pastor, will bring the morning message.

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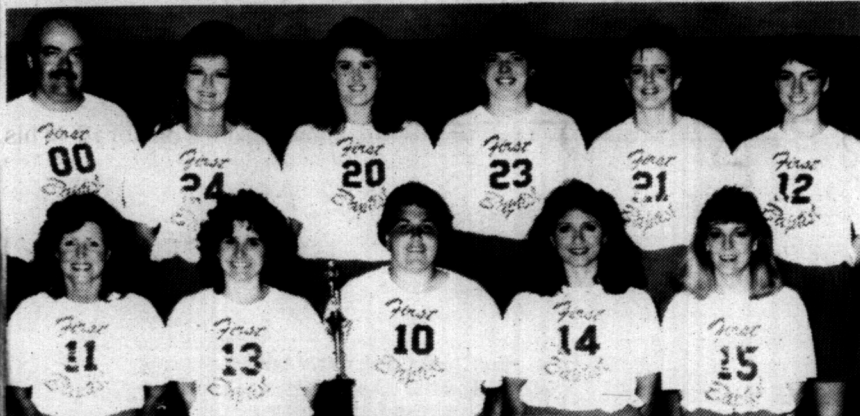
Just for the Record



Olivet Church of Gulfport had some significant help in its food distribution ministry. Students of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Perkinston, collected food items and were able to donate several boxes for the church's food distribution ministry. Maryann Anthony, Jerry Alliston, Tony Anthony, and Fran Daniels delivered the collected food to the church. Pictured are Sid Taylor, pastor, and Fred Anthony, a layman who directs the ministry, receiving one of the boxes of food from students.



First Church, Aberdeen, broke ground for the construction of a Family Life Center on the east side of church property on March 31. The congregation approved plans for the building last year and began a "Together We Build" program of fund-raising. About half of the funding necessary for construction has been raised. Alan Kilgore, pastor, says, "We are thankful for a church and a vision and most importantly to our Lord Jesus Christ who is our guide."



The women's basketball team of **First Church, Pontotoc**, was the 1991 tournament champion. Pictured, kneeling, left to right are Wanda Hatcher, Tonya Hatcher, Tracy Robinson, Anita Wood, and Tammy Montgomery. Standing are coach Lee Hatcher, Tammy Hannon, Joy Ross, Faith Schaffer, Karen McGregor, and Angie Davis. Not pictured is Marty Huffstatler.

New Zion Church, Crystal Springs, will host the first annual Women's Conference, on May 3 and 4. Sarah Odle Maddox from Bellevue Church, Memphis, will be the featured speaker. She is the daughter of Mrs. Mabel Odle of Jackson and the late Joe Odle, former editor of *The Baptist Record*. The Friday night session will begin at 7 p.m. and the Saturday sessions will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A salad lunch will be provided at noon. There is no cost for the conference, but a love offering will be taken. Leroy Brewer is pastor.

Providence Church, Hattiesburg, held a note burning for its church building on April 14. Taking part in the ceremony were Irene Grayson, Ruby Mixon, Henry Brock, Arthur McMahan, Buba Gilpin, and Cliff Lazenby, pastor.

First Church, Water Valley, has announced plans for a Discipleship Weekend, May 3, 4, and 5. Larry Hart will serve as local coordinator. Sidney Ellis, Greenville, is the weekend coordinator and Dwight Faulkenberry will be the resource leader. Guy Reedy is pastor.



Clarke College, Newton, recently welcomed a group of prospective students from First Church, Tillman's Corner, Mobile, Ala., together with students from Newton and surrounding counties, who attended preview day. Those visiting were, Mark Howard, Tabitha Day, Jay Rawls, Tina Winans, Renee Howell, Angie Savell, Michael Palmer, Melissa Jones, Chad Greene, and Angie Reynolds. Robert Allen, host, serves as minister of youth and is an alumnus of Clarke College.

Crossgates Church, Brandon, will present "Praise Pageant," a passion play on the life of Jesus Christ, May 5 and 6 at 7 p.m. nightly. Orchestra and choir directed by Mike Harland. Tommy Vinson is pastor. For more information, or to obtain tickets, call 825-2562.

Salem Church, Collins, will have Heritage Day Services on Sunday, May 5. At 11 a.m. there will be a Baptist Hymnal dedication service, in which the adult Handbell Choir will perform. At 3 p.m., Melinda Pritchett and Chris Ross will be presented in senior recital. The Salem Youth Handbell Choir will also perform. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall.

The Department of Fine Arts, Alcorn State University, will present the ASU concert choir in its spring concert on May 5, at 4 p.m. in Oakland Memorial Chapel. The public is invited. Under the direction of Herbert V.R.P. Jones, the concert choir recently completed its spring tour, performing in Canton, Memphis, Chicago, Milwaukee, and Champaign/Urbana, Ill.

Corinth Church, Magee, will have its first annual Memorial Day, May 5, with services from 10 a.m.-12 noon. All offerings taken will go to the cemetery trust fund. The memorial address and message will be presented by Billy Guest, pastor, and R. Alton Tullos, former pastor and former director of missions for Simpson County.

Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, will host a series of programs each Monday night in May, under the theme, "Marvelous Mondays in May." The four speakers for the 7 p.m. services are: May 6, Eddie Martin; May 13, Morris Chapman; May 20, Fred Wolfe; and May 27, John Sullivan.



Spiritual Emphasis Week was held at **Clarke College**, March 18-21. The leader was Gary Maze, minister of youth and singles at Woodland Hills Church, Jackson. The challenge to the students was "Keeping the main thing, the main thing." Pictured, left to right, are Maze and Lawrence White, BSU director at Clarke College.



Banner Church, Calhoun Association, had ground breaking services for a Christian Life Center on March 31 following the morning worship hour. Pictured, left to right, are Phil Yarbrough, building committee chairman, Nina Peebles, WMU president, Brice Rasberry, chairman of deacons, and Joe Epting, pastor.

Gambrell on program for the SBREA

The Southern Baptist Religious Education Association will meet June 2-3 at the Omni Hotel in Atlanta. The theme will be "Shaping Our Ministry For Today's World." William Gambrell, minister of education, First Church, Jackson, will offer the benediction following the Passing of the Gavel on Monday at 5 p.m.

Mrs. Lott dies

Elizabeth Graves Lott, mother-in-law of Jimmy R. Walker, who is pastor of Pheba Church in Clay Association, died April 29. Widow of Henry Lott, she was a member of Old Hebron Church in Jeff Davis Association. The funeral was held at Colonial Chapel in Mendenhall and burial was at the Slater Cemetery, May 1. Mrs. Lott is survived by four sons, two daughters, 15 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

SEARCH

From page 3

Although the chairman and committee appear to be extremely cautious about their search, a Nashville newspaper published a story April 23 indicating former SBC president Jerry Vines had recommended Paige Patterson, head of Criswell Bible College in Dallas.

Ray Waddle, religion editor of *The Tennessean*, obtained a copy of the letter Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., wrote to the search committee recommending Patterson.

Vines told Baptist Press he did recommend Patterson, calling him a knowledgeable churchman and effective administrator who understands publishing and doesn't shy away from controversy.

"I do not believe anyone should be selected as president of the Sunday School Board who would not be controversial," Vines wrote in the letter.

Dubose affirmed Patterson had been recommended but declined to elaborate on the recommendation. He said there had been a number of "repeating recommendations" but the committee is interviewing based on the criteria developed by the committee and the persons' qualifications to run a large business enterprise.

"We have no deadline," Dubose said. "We want the best man for the job. We are sensitive to where the denomination is right now but we also want to exercise real wisdom in our search."

Last week Dubose met with employees of the Sunday School Board and invited them to give input to the committee. He said 1,500 forms were left for employees to fill out and send to the committee. The SSB has about 1,800 employees.

Dubose said the committee also would make a report to the SSB trustees' executive committee, meeting this week in Nashville.

The search committee will nominate a person to succeed Lloyd Elder who turned in his resignation as board president in January following a number of disagreements with the trustees.

Hollinger is director, Baptist Press.

New books from Broadman

Celebrating Life by Donald A. Atkinson (125 pp., \$3.25). Down to earth messages for the youth.

In the Fullness of Time by Stephen Douglas Wilson (128 pp., \$3.25). The life of Christ set against the background of the New Testament era.

The Grace Escape by Bailey E. Smith (175 pp., \$8.95). Endeavors to hold the standard of salvation as high as the Bible holds it.

Thursday, May 2, 1991

Revival results

Ford's Creek Church, Poplarville: March 17-20; Larry Robertson, Savannah, Tenn., evangelist; Eddie Wilhite, music; one profession of faith; Michael Priest, pastor.

A **Discipleship Training Revival** was held at Fellowship Church, Jones Association, March 10-13. Each evening, age-group conferences with elected age-group leaders were held: Jimmy McFatter, adults; Ron Swindall, youth; and Margaret Fortenberry and Russell Cottingham, children. Discipleship Training materials were viewed and explained with a hands-on workshop. Following the conferences, a worship service was conducted with Robert Bolling, music director, Fellowship Church, directing. Jimmy McFatter brought messages each night on "Doctrines We Believe." Robert Fortenberry, director of Discipleship Training for the association, with Rayford Moore, pastor of Fellowship Church, planned the program.

Homes needed for French, Spanish students

Nacel Cultural Exchanges, a non-profit organization, is once again seeking host families in Mississippi to house English-speaking French and Spanish students for two four-week periods this summer. The first group, a Spanish group, will be in Jackson June 30-July 29. The second group, French, will be in Jackson July 16-August 12. Host families are needed to house these students, as well as their two adult chaperones.

The students, age 13-18, are English-speaking, matched to the host families' requests, and are eager to learn American culture. Each student is covered by insurance, has paid transportation to the U.S., and is supplied with his own spending money.

Nacel is the largest homestay program conducted between the U.S. and Europe. Its purpose is to promote international understanding through cultural exchange and experiences such as family sharing. Nacel also supports foreign language education in American schools by encouraging students to begin and continue foreign language study. Foreign students come from France, Spain, Germany, Ireland, the Ivory Coast, and the Soviet Union.

Applications and more information are available through Jim and Debbie Gorney, 129 Robin Hood Road, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (601) 636-4609.

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Trustees nominated for commissions, committee

NASHVILLE (BP) — Trustees to serve on the commissions and committees of the Southern Baptist Convention have been nominated by the 1991 Committee on Nominations.

Listed are the Mississippians that will serve if elected by the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 4-6 in the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

EDUCATION COMMISSION (21 members): 5 nominations considered; 2 new members; 3 renominations.

Van D. Quick, Clinton, Miss.; renominated for second term.

BROTHERHOOD COMMISSION (38 members, being reduced to 36): 7 nominations considered; 3 new members; 4 renominations.

Nominated for second term is Robert E. Hill, Cleveland, Miss.

Two at-large terms ending this year will not be continued with replacements if the commission's request to eliminate at-large positions is approved by the Atlanta convention.

Revival dates

Briar Hill Church, Florence: May 5-9; Sunday, 10:30 a.m., followed by noon meal, and 7:15 p.m.; Mon-Thurs., 10:30 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.; Robert Perry, Macedonia Church, Brookhaven, evangelist; Tim Hubbard, Cartersville Church, Hattiesburg, music; Wilson Winstead, pastor.

Cloverdale Church, Natchez (Adams): May 1-5; Wed.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; John Garrett, Union Church, Belmont, La., evangelist; Butch Hosea, music; Weyland Gauntt, pastor.

New Sight Church, Brookhaven: May 5-9; homecoming, Sunday, morning service, 11 a.m. followed by dinner on the grounds, and 7 p.m.; week-day services, 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Luther Price, Knoxville, N.C., evangelist; Mike Davis, First Church, Dawes, Ala., music; Edgar L. Wright, pastor.

Calvary Church, Vicksburg: May 5-10; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon-Fri., 7 p.m.; Danny Lanier, Meridian, evangelist; Herbert Greer, Brookhaven, music evangelist; Johnny Collins, pastor.

Sunflower Church, Sunflower: May 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m., and all evening services will be at 7 p.m.; Benton H. Barron, New Orleans, preaching; Mark Manning, Indianola, singing; Lester M. Jeffers, pastor.

North Greenwood Church, Greenwood: May 5-9; B. J. Bennett, pastor, First Church, Clinton, Ky., evangelist; David Prevost, minister of music, Calvary Church, Tupelo, music; Jim Phillips, pastor.

Everette Church, Mendenhall (Simpson): May 5-10; services, Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. nightly; James Hoven, Calvary Church, Wilmer, Ala., evangelist; William A. McWilliams, pastor.

Coulter to celebrate 50th anniversary

R. A. and Marjorie Coulter of Whitesand in Jeff Davis Association will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, May 5, from 2-4 p.m. Coulter pastored churches at Heuck's Retreat, Westside, Bruce, Benton, Harpersville, and Temple in Forest. He is now retired and living in the Whitesand Community.

EXECUTIVE

From page 4

Grant, Sylva, N.C.; Larry E. Toothaker, Norman, Okla.; Judy Beeler, Fountain City, Tenn.; C.B. Scott, Pound, Va.; George H. Kinchen Jr., Parkersburg, W.V.; and local member Billie K. Friel, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.

Roger Williams, pastor of Corinth Church, London, Ky., will replace Allen Harrod of Bellevue, Ky., who moved. The term expires in 1994.

ANNUITY BOARD (50 members): 16 nominations considered; 6 new members; 10 renominations.

Nominated to terms expiring in 1995 replacing members ineligible for re-election include:

Robert "Roy" Rogers, insurance agent/real estate salesman and member of First Southern Church, Great Bend, Kan., replacing Carlin D. Pruett of Pittsburg; Joseph A. Mack, state employee and member of First Church, Columbia, S.C., replacing George H. Balentine Jr., Simpsonville; and local members Christene Y. Walker, teacher and member of Singing Hills Church, Dallas, replacing Terry Gene Washburn of Colleyville, Texas; Donald H. Wills, attorney and member of Park Cities Church, Dallas, replacing Earl B. Patrick of Waco, Texas, in a 1992 term.

Paul Carter, pastor of First Church (Tool), Kemp, Texas, replacing R. Earl Allen of Fort Worth, Texas, who died. The local board term expires in 1993.

T. Jack Colvin, insurance executive and member of Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, Miss., is nominated to replace Arnold S. Hederman Jr., of Mendenhall, Miss., who was eligible for re-election but not renominated because of absenteeism.

Nominated to second terms are Gerald H. Lord, Florence, Ala.; Mark H. Daniel, Phoenix, Ariz.; Stephen B. Henderson, Lakeland, Fla.; Everett W. Gasaway, Indianapolis; Gene Flynn, Lexington, Ky.; A.D. Foreman III, Monroe, La.; Mrs. John P. Reynolds, Velma, Okla.; Bill Yung, El Paso, Texas; Eugene C. Smith, Alexandria, Va.; and local board member Bob Eklund, Dallas.

Muslim anger still smolders

The next problem missionaries in the Middle East will face: how do you share Christ with someone who hates you and everything you stand for? That's the challenge Christians — and especially missionaries — in the Muslim world may face for a long time.

Tensions between Christians and Muslims are much higher, said one worker during the war. "Predictions are that this could hurt Christian-Muslim relationships for 100 years," he said.

— News Briefs, FMB, SBC

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LETTERS FROM CAREY - Transforming Human Resources

Jim Edwards, President Volume 2, No. 4 -- May 2, 1991

"And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."
Romans 12:2

A teaching career is like planting trees--you seldom enjoy the shade of your plantings. In *The Man Who Planted Trees*, Elzeard Bouffier, was an exception. After his son and wife died in the early 1900s, Bouffier retreated to a desolate area of France to begin a new life of planting 100 acorns each day. Imagine how that unlivable area was brought back to life by 4 decades of growth of millions of trees because Bouffier cared and dared enough to plant and nurture acorns! His spirited determination was rewarded by seeing a transformation occur gradually over time because Bouffier used the resources God placed at his disposal.

TRANSFORMING TEACHERS

Dr. Al Foy, who chairs our Education Department, is a teacher of teachers. Each day, he and our faculty plant ideas in students' minds, who in turn plant still other ideas in the minds of their students. Imagine the awesome responsibility of planting the right ideas!

What is a teachers' reward? It surely isn't financial. Although we have made significant progress in recent years, Carey faculty still make about the average salary of a Mississippi elementary or secondary teacher, and much less than the average salary of private Church-related colleges in the South. Their primary reward is knowing that they transform the lives of their students and of future generations who make our world a better place in which to live.

TRANSFORMING STUDENTS

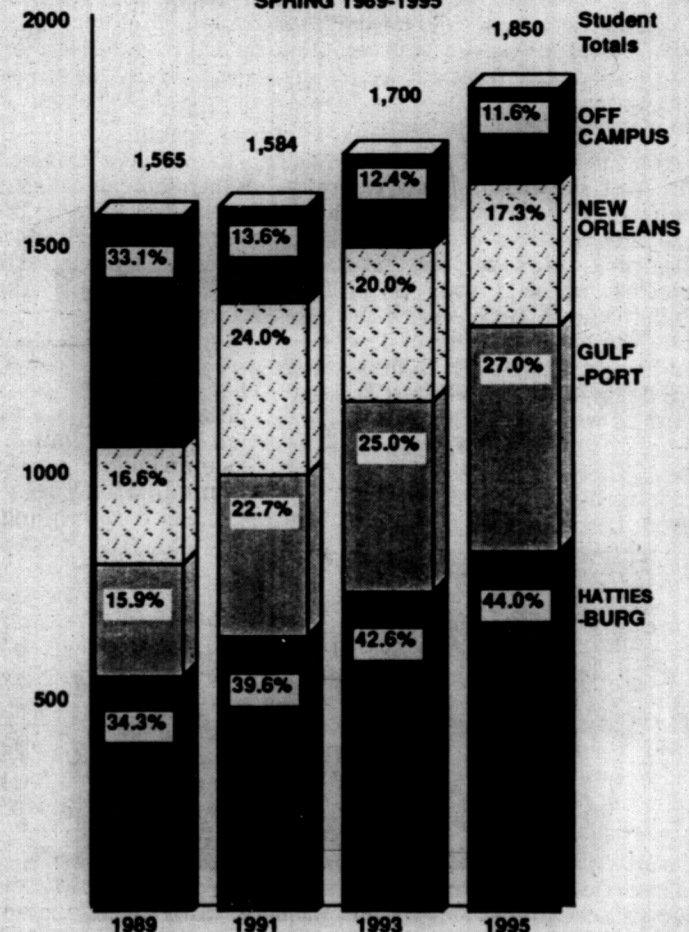
The quality of our alumni suggests that transforming student lives has been anything but average at Carey. Like Bouffier's acorns, our alumni were nurtured generously with ideas by caring faculty who often had little to give but themselves. That is the essence of learning at William Carey College — being challenged intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, and physically to do the best that God would have them do.

Another element of the challenge related to transforming our student body which we have been addressing is shown in the accompanying chart on headcount enrollment. The College began in the mid-1980s to meet some important educational needs in off-campus programs throughout Mississippi. By 1989, one-third of our 1,565 students were enrolled at off-campus sites. During the past two years, we have added over 300 students to our main campuses in Hattiesburg, Gulfport, and New Orleans with growth rates of 19%, 45% and 46% respectively. We have purposely reduced the off-campus programs to less than one-seventh of the student headcount. Additionally, a much larger proportion of our students are now enrolled on a full-time rather than part-time basis, which provides much greater educational and financial stability for the College.

The chart shows our goals through the mid-1990s reflect a 4% annual growth in student headcount. Hattiesburg and Gulfport are projected to continue enrolling a higher proportion of our student body, with enrollment estimates of approximately 800 and 500 respectively by 1995.

In summary, our enrollment strategies are transforming the mix of our student body while our faculty are transforming their minds to serve God and Mississippi Baptists.

WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE
STUDENT ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT
SPRING 1989-1995



P.S. Next week --- Financial Resources From God

How the Lord makes a new person from a sinner

By Benny Still
Ephesians 2:1-10

The problem: sin. The result of sin: wasted lives and eternity in hell. The solution: forgiveness of sin and new life in Jesus. Paul



Still

wrote to the church in Corinth saying, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; behold, all things are become as new" (2 Cor. 5:17). Through faith we are made alive in Christ by God's grace to live a life of good works.

Individuals without Christ in their lives are dead in trespasses and sins, according to the words of Paul in verse 1. There is not a hope of eternity in heaven apart from Jesus. Without Christ, individuals are enslaved to evil, ruled by Satan, at the mercy of their own passions, and objects of divine wrath (vv. 2-3). On the other side of the coin, believers in Christ are objects of God's boundless mercy and love (v. 4). Now, more than at any other time in our history we need to show forth to a watching world the meaning of true Christianity — lives not merely changed, but transformed by the mighty power of God through his Son,

LIFE AND WORK

Jesus Christ (Rom. 12:1-2). For Christians to give anything other than a constant positive witness for Christ is what my friend Earl Clark refers to as "slop bucket repentance." He further states that folks with that brand of "repentance" aren't truly sorry for their violation of God's law, they're just sorry they got caught at it when the slop sloshed on them! We would do well to have had a genuine regeneration experience!

Believers are resurrected to a new life and have fellowship with the living Christ. This is the beautiful picture displayed when the new Christian follows the Lord's example and is baptized. Such a relationship demands our best — not some second-rate display of religion (vv. 5-6)! To be raised up by God to enjoy the glories of heaven demands that we be examples of his grace.

Verses 8 and 9 are among the most treasured passages in scripture to me. They adequately explain that our salvation is one that is not based on any goodness or works that we might accomplish or perform, but based solely on the grace of God displayed in the gift of his Son,

Jesus Christ. It is essential that we express salvation as a gift. The cost of our gift of salvation was not cheap! John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." What a blessing to know that God loves us so much — that even if we decide not to love him or accept his Son as our Saviour — he still would have demonstrated his love to us and sent Jesus to be our Saviour.

Redemption is not by human attainment, nor is it by human achievement; it is by God's provision — God's marvelous grace (vv. 8-9). Should salvation be attainable through our human efforts, we'd all be bragging and boasting about what we did to accomplish it. Salvation from sin's consequences and eternity in heaven are not prizes won by contestants on a TV game show. They are benefits given by a loving God.

As a result of the wonderful gift of salvation in Christ, we thereby become heirs to the kingdom of heaven. According to verse 10, God's greatest work, his masterpiece, is a new creature in Christ Jesus made with God's purpose to live a life of good works. Granted, good works do not save a person. Isaiah said that even the best we might be able to do is no better than the filthy rags that were used to wrap

the leper's sores (Is. 64:6). But in the life of the person who has really been changed from unforgiven sinner to forgiven saint, evidence of that change will manifest itself.

Perhaps the following lyrics to a song I wrote for my young people will help us put the whole matter into perspective:

"Believe" means to trust in Him completely, it's more than just the knowledge in our heads. The devils down in hell believe and tremble, but they can't be forgiven of their sins. We believe in our hearts unto righteousness, and with the mouth we confess that we've sinned. Through the blood that Jesus shed that day on Calv'ry, one day He'll say, 'my child, enter in!' 'Receive' means to take the gift God offers, and be thankful that He loves us as we are. We could never gain His favor in our own strength. It's 'by grace through faith, not works, lest we should boast.' One way and one alone will lead to heaven, Jesus is 'the way, the truth and the life.' He saves from sins and gives us life eternal, and strength each day to conquer all our strife. Won't you trust my Jesus as your Lord and Saviour? Open up your heart and ask Him to come in! He will free you from the guilt that once enslaved you, and in His love you then can say, 'I'm born again!' " [© 1988, by B. Still]

Still is pastor, Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall.

David's kingly qualities of kindness, compassion

By Jerry Vardaman

II Sam. 8:1-9:13; I Chron. 18:1-17

In our past Sunday School lesson, we have seen a very dark side in David. He could be cold blooded and ruthless. In this lesson, we see



Vardaman

another quality in his life. He could be compassionate and kind — even to his enemies, or to wayward children (like Absalom).

Throughout Chapter 8 of II Samuel, we have the harsh and ugly picture of David which we find in other Old Testament pictures. He carried on war with the Philistines. These people were Greeks, imported from the Mediterranean coastlands and islands, who did not practice circumcision like their Semitic neighbors in Palestine. He was especially harsh with the Moabites (8:2) and even killed two-thirds of those he captured when he destroyed their cities. We do not attempt to excuse David, but we should remember that in the famous Moabite stone (erected by Mesha, king of Moab, shortly after the death of Ahab) we note that when the Moabites captured Israelite cities, they killed all of the Jewish enemies as an offering to their god, Chemosh. David at

BIBLE BOOK

least spared a third of the Moabites. Many other victories of David are described in 8:3-13. He defeated Syrians, Edomites, Ammonites, Philistines, and Amalekites.

Two interesting notices appear in 8:18. We note that David had Cherithites (Cretans) and Pelethites under his command. These were Philistine bodyguards. It was customary at that time for kings to use foreigners as bodyguards — lest native troops would get involved in a conspiracy to overthrow the throne. Even Egyptian pharaohs used Philistine troops for this purpose . . . 500 years before David! Even stranger to some of us is the information that he (as a member of the tribe of Judah!) used some of his sons as priests (8:18), since this was contrary to the Old Testament regulations! Yet Jesus, as a later son of David, became our eternal high priest.

In Chapter 9, we see a different picture of David. We see one who is compassionate towards a crippled son of his old sidekick and companion, Jonathan, who was now dead. The name of this son is given here as "Mephibosheth," though elsewhere (I Chron.

8:34) We are more plainly told that his name was Meribaal. This name, Meribaal, (which means "He who strives for Baal" or "He who strives for the Lord") could be ambiguous. A zealous Jewish scribe wanted to be very unambiguous and renamed Meribaal as Mephibosheth ("he who spreads shame"), a name which no loving parent would give to a child, male or female. We can be sure that Jonathan would have known this son only as Meribaal.

Kindness is a virtue which most of us enjoy receiving more than we enjoy bestowing. One can understand the fear with which Mephibosheth (Meribaal) approached David when he was invited to come into David's presence. He feared that David would likely put him to death due to his relationship with Saul's family. We all remember the strong friendship which existed between David and Jonathan, and it was for Jonathan's sake that David showed kindness to Meribaal letting him constantly eat from his table and restoring to him all of the property which belonged formerly to his father (II Sam. 9:7).

Another factor in Meribaal's fear was likely due to his physical condition. He was a cripple and we remember that David had commanded that no cripple would ever come into the house (the later temple), due to the way the

Jebusites had insulted him when he conquered Jerusalem (II Sam. 5:8).

Later when David had to escape from Jerusalem to flee from his treacherous son Absalom, Meribaal (Mephibosheth) had an unfaithful servant who lied about Meribaal's loyalty to David (the servant's name was Ziba, the same person who was with Meribaal when David invited him to his table; II Sam. 9:2 ff. and cf. II Sam. 16:1 ff). David unwittingly dispossessed Meribaal (Mephibosheth) of his property, for Mephibosheth (Meribaal) had sent needed provisions to David as he faced acute needs as well as exile from Jerusalem (II Sam. 16:4). But Ziba lied and claimed all of the credit of help for himself (II Sam. 19:24-30). David, upon learning the truth, divided the property between Mephibosheth (Meribaal) and Ziba; however, Meribaal showed his true greatness when he permitted Ziba to take it all. Later when the Gibeonites asked for the death of the family of Saul, Mephibosheth was spared by David due to his oath to Jonathan. Other sons of Saul's family were turned over by David to death (II Sam. 21:1-14). There was more to David's kindness than meets the eye, and his faithfulness to this unfortunate cripple still speaks to us about this side of his character.

Vardaman is professor of archaeology, Mississippi State University.

Forgiving others as God has forgiven you

By Ruth N. Allen

II Corinthians 1:23-2:11, 14-17

On a recent CHANGED LIVES telecast, Ben Haden, a Chattanooga pastor, related his conversation with a young attorney. This man had



Allen

flunked out of medical school because he spent too much time shooting pool. His father encouraged him to do something worthwhile with his life; as a result he attended law school and became a practicing attorney.

In 1985, this young man decided to forgive the debts owed him by those who could not or would not repay. He wrote each one and said, "I am forgiving you your debt. I want you to know the reason. I ask of you only two things in accepting this forgiveness. If I have offended you while representing you as your attorney or if I have offended you since, forgive me. Now in turn, I want you to forgive someone who owes you." Ben Haden said to the attorney, "I imagine the letters poured in." "No," he replied, "About one in ten."

The example of the attorney stresses two fac-

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tors — one, there is the need to be forgiven and two, there is the need to forgive others. God, in Christ, has forgiven us; we, in turn, must be willing to forgive.

Jesus had a similar experience with ten lepers. Jesus sent them to show themselves to the priest; and as they were going, they were healed. Only one of the ten returned to thank Jesus for his healing mercy. Jesus was constrained to ask, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" (Luke 17:17). Forgiven people are not always thankful people. This fact prohibits some people from being more magnanimous in their forgiveness of others. Jesus keeps on forgiving even when people are unthankful. In Colossians 3:13, Paul writes, "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Evidently, at Corinth someone had caused the church grief and sorrow. Seemingly this individual was ostracized by the congregation. The spirit of the church was not marked by a spirit of forgiveness and love but rather by an arrogant attitude of rebuke. Paul, in response

to the request for advice, urged the church to reaffirm their love and forgive the man. Note that Paul also forgave the man even though he was far removed from the situation. Christian love and forgiveness restore the sinful member to repentance and productivity in the kingdom of God. The ultimate aim of forgiveness is to glorify God and to fulfill his purpose in those who love him. Charles H. Spurgeon, nineteenth century British preacher, said, "Cultivate forbearance until your heart yields a fine crop of it. Pray for a short memory as to all unkindness."

Unforgiveness can produce many harmful results. Several things may happen to persons who are unwilling to forgive: 1. There is always the possibility of an arrogant spirit, as the majority of the Pharisees in Jesus' day possessed an attitude of self-righteousness. One Pharisee was arrogant enough to say, "God, I thank you that I am not like other men" (Luke 18:11). 2. Guilt and uneasiness create a miserable existence. Only through forgiveness can the misery be alleviated. 3. Some unforgiving people actually enjoy possessing a feeling of "being wronged" by someone. Glorifying in their rejection, they feel that their wounded spirits release them from their obligation to serve God and to

forgive as he has forgiven. 4. Some cannot forgive because they hold to the old cliché, "To forgive is to forget." God alone possesses the ability to forgive and forget. He promised, "I will forgive their wickedness and I will remember their sins no more" (Jeremiah 31:34). God has never commanded us to forget, but he has commanded us to forgive. 5. Paul emphasizes the devastating effect of unforgiveness when he said, "... unforgiveness gives advantage to Satan" (2 Corinthians 2:11). Surely Satan must smile with satisfaction when people of God refuse to forgive an offending person.

Only as people forgive can they experience peace and happiness. In my personal ministry I have observed that the majority of life's problems would disappear if people would learn to forgive and would restore offenders to usefulness in the kingdom of God.

A king said, "Today I shall destroy all my enemies." At evening they were still living. When asked about this, the king said, "I have destroyed my enemies, for by doing good to them I have made them my friends." Pray today that you may have a forgiving spirit.

Allen of Jackson, is the wife of Judd Allen, pastor of Ogden Church, Bentonla.

capsules

LIVING THROUGH CANCER, a support group for cancer patients and their families, meets May 8 at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center at 4 p.m. For more information, call 968-3090.

NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY CHORUS AND LOUISIANA COLLEGE CHORALE, under the direction of Benjamin Harlan, assistant professor of music, NOBTS, will present Mozart's *Requiem* at 7:30 p.m., May 7, in St. Louis Cathedral. The performance will be accompanied by orchestra and will feature faculty and student soloists. The performance of Mozart's *Requiem* marks the bicentennial anniversary of the composer's death. It is in memory of the men and women who lost their lives in the Middle East War.

CHIEF THANKS ABS FOR BIBLES: NEW YORK, April 5, 1991, (ABS) — U.S. Army General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, head of the U.S. Central Command, has written a letter of appreciation to the American Bible Society, expressing his thanks for the special desert camouflage-covered Bibles the ABS provided for U.S. military personnel in Operation Desert Storm. "In times of greatest stress, soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen, have always looked to their God for strength, help, and deliverance," the general wrote on March 9. "This present conflict is no exception."

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE is seeking families to host students from Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Colombia, Spain, Germany, and Thailand. "One of these boys or girls will live as a member of your family while he or she attends the local high school. These students are carefully screened, covered by medical insurance, and provide their own spending money," said Robert Fink, president of the Exchange. "They are eager to experience our American way of life while sharing their culture, but they can only do so if you are willing to open your hearts and homes to them." If interested, contact International Student Exchange, P. O. Box 58, Fort Jones, Calif. 96032 or 1-800-233-HOST, or 1-916-468-2264 in California.

OSTEOPOROSIS SEMINAR: MEMPHIS — Baptist Memorial Hospital's 55-Plus program will sponsor a free Osteoporosis Seminar on Friday, May 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Groner Auditorium, Baptist Medical Building, 20 South Dudley. Osteoporosis, which usually affects the older population, is a condition that causes bones to become weakened. In fact, 1.3 million fractures a year are attributed to the condition.

The latest advances in the diagnosis and treatment of the disease will be the seminar's main focus. Pre-registration is requested. For more information or to register, call 1-800-541-5323.

OPERATION VICTORY CELEBRATION — The Operation Desert Storm Family Support Group sponsored by Crossroads Counseling Center of Rankin County is seeking to locate all military personnel from the Rankin County area who served in Operation Desert Storm. A celebration is planned for July 4. Send names, addresses, and branches of service to Shirley Culpepper, Rt. 1, Box 356, Florence, MS 39073.

NRLC '91: Delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention this June in Atlanta will get special rates at National Right to Life's 19th annual convention, scheduled conveniently just after and across the street from the Southern Baptist Convention. "The Heart of the South Beats for Life" is theme for the National Right to Life Convention '91, to be held at the Atlanta Hilton and Towers Hotel June 6-8. The Southern Baptist Convention is scheduled for the week of June 2, and is headquartered at the Grand Hyatt.

NASHVILLE (BP) — SOUTHERN BAPTISTS' HUNGER GIFTS in 1990 continued the downward spiral begun 1985, according to figures released by the Southern Baptist Foreign and Home Mission Boards. Southern Baptist contributions for domestic and foreign hunger in 1990 totaled \$7,780,072. This represents a decrease of 1.6 percent over similar giving in 1989. "These figures are bad news. Hungry people everywhere will suffer more because we are giving less," said Robert Parham, associate director of the Christian Life Commission, who coordinates awareness and action efforts on hunger issues among Southern Baptists. "Some of us have blamed most of the downward spiral on the lack of media coverage of worldwide hunger," Parham said. "But after five years, we Southern Baptists ought to accept most of the responsibility for the drop. We must recapture the biblical mandate: Feed the hungry!"

TEHRAN, Iran (EP) — MORE IRANIANS HAVE BECOME CHRISTIANS within the past 12 years than in the past century, according to the U.S.-based Trans-World Radio (TWR). "This is in spite of the fact that evangelism is forbidden in Iran," TWR reported. Churches and Christian bookstores have been closed, and even weddings require government approval. "So who is telling Iranians about the Savior? Missionary radio broadcasts beamed into Iran! a pastor in Iran stated, 'I would even sell my last suit to keep the Christian programs on the air.'"

ONE HOME AT A TIME, 10,000 TIMES — AMERICUS, GA — Habitat for Humanity International dedicated its 10,000th house in Atlanta, Ga., and its 10,000th house in Breman Asikuma, Ghana in West Africa on April 13. Attending the dedication ceremony were Habitat co-founders Millard and Linda Fuller and Bo and Emma Johnson, the first Habitat homeowners. They presented Ernestine Higgins with a Bible during the ceremony. "It's great that Habitat has built houses for so many people who would otherwise be living in shacks," Emma Johnson said. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat for Humanity has grown from building just a few homes a year to more than 3,700 in 1990 alone.

ACTS announces new programming

ACTS Network programming takes on a new look in May as the first phase of a project to present more programs that are viewer-specific begins.

Eight programs new to the ACTS line-up will be presented on a regular basis, beginning the week of May 5-11. In addition, three exclusive ACTS Network programs will be televised during May.

One of the three special programs slated during May is "Wayne Watson in Concert." Featuring contemporary Christian recording artist Wayne Watson performing some of his most popular hits, the special is an exclusive ACTS production, videotaped on location in Dallas, Texas. It airs from 8 to 9 p.m. Central time on May 6, May 11, and May 29.

The other specials during May are documentaries. One, "Winds of Freedom," hosted by David Hartman, formerly of ABC's "Good Morning America," features exclusive footage and previously untold stories of strug-

gles and triumph as Christians in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union worked to move their countries closer to democracy.

The other, "Still A Family," hosted by actress-singer Florence Henderson, spotlights the struggles and hurts of one-parent families, and how some churches are ministering to their needs.

"Winds of Freedom" will be aired on May 17, May 28, and May 30. "Still A Family" will be broadcast on May 18, May 20, and May 24.

Regular programs to make their ACTS debuts in May are:

"Act It Out," featuring host Alphonzo "Phonz" Wesson, a former Chicago gang member who became a drama teacher, with a studio audience of teenagers.

"Backstage with Gary McSpadden," in which singer-composer McSpadden visits with stage, screen, and TV celebrities.

"Celebrate with Jessy Dixon."

Gospel performer Dixon combines his faith and dynamic singing style to create music that embodies the heart and soul of the gospel sound.

"Gospel Music Celebration:" Great performers of traditional and contemporary gospel music gather for concerts in a camp-meeting setting.

"Just Kids:" Children of all ages will enjoy learning Bible verses with the "Just Kids" gang.

"Over-The-Hill-Gang:" Doug Oldham hosts a fast-moving combination of music, variety, interviews, and humor in a program designed especially for folks over 50.

"The Gospel According to St. Bernard:" Bernie, a St. Bernard, leads two children, Jennifer and David, on exciting adventures in which the children learn to obey God.

"Josh McDowell:" McDowell, noted author, lecturer, and television personality, helps families grow closer in Christ and work through day-to-day challenges.

New Orleans Seminary students study urban missions in Mexico

By Breena Kent Paine
MEXICO CITY, Mexico — Frustrated at not being able to communicate in Spanish while sharing Christ on the streets of Mexico City,

Tammy Wilkinson of Brandon approached a well-dressed young man and asked, "Do you speak English?"

"No," the man answered. Not knowing how to ask if he were a Christian, she pointed toward heaven and asked, "Jesucristo?"

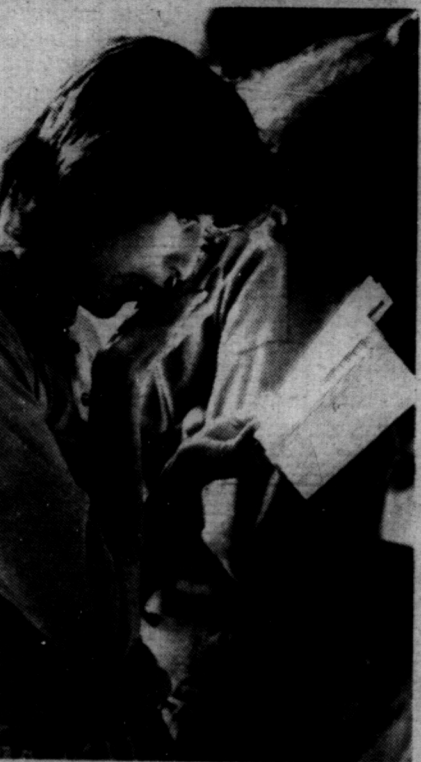
"Si," he answered. "Soy evangelico." Using a number of hand motions and the broken Spanish, "Usted habla Jesucristo," the student at New Orleans Seminary asked if he had ever shared his faith with others.

"Muy importante habla Jesucristo," said Wilkinson, and she grabbed his arm to pull him to talk with a man to whom she had tried to witness earlier.

"It was the perfect first time for that Christian to share his faith," said Wilkinson. She was one of 17 New Orleans Seminary students who spent



Tammy Wilkinson talks with a child outside the Chalco Baptist Mission in Mexico City. (Photo by Breena Kent Paine)



A young woman wipes a tear as the sun glows off her Bible at a small Baptist mission in Chalco, Mexico City, where Darla Kling shared her testimony of how she became a Christian. The woman later accepted Christ during the revival service led by New Orleans Seminary Students. (Photo by Breena Kent Paine)

their Spring break in Mexico City, where they studied urban missions and saw more than 20 people make decisions for Christ.

Led by Joe Trull, associate professor of Christian ethics, the workshop sponsored by the seminary and the Foreign Mission Board included visiting the Baptist Seminary, a center for student work, a large church, and two mission churches. Students dialogued with area pastors, associational workers, and missionaries; led revival services; witnessed in homes; and conducted a street revival.

Other Mississippi students who participated in the Spring break workshop were: David Sills of Jackson, pastor of Lula Church near Jackson, who is in the appointment process to be an Ecuador missionary; James Smith of south Mississippi, an aerospace engineer at the John C. Stennis Space Center; Buddy Landry Jr. of Biloxi; Keith Yelverton of Laurel, minister of music and youth at Trinity Church; and Darla Kling of Picayune.

Paine is PR writer, NOBTS.

Baptist Record

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May 2, 1991